SUNDAY
May 21, 2023
BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
28 Pages ₹ 8.00

THE HINDU ON SUNDAY

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Vol.54 • No.21

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Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

G20 भारत 2023 INDIA

Department of Information and Public Relations

Gruha Lakshmi
₹2000
Per month for Women

Gruha Jyothi
Monthly 200 Units Free Electricity

Anna Bhagya
10kg Rice per person / Month

Yuva Nidhi
₹3000 Per month for Graduates
₹1500 Per months for Diploma Holders

Uchita Prayana
Free Bus Service for Women

Hon'ble Chief Minister **Shri Siddaramaiah** has announced on the very first day of assuming office that the **'Five Guarantee'** scheme promised will be implemented very soon. In doing so, he has confirmed that his government is a pro-people government that will honour all its commitments.
The government is proud to implement the guarantee scheme for the welfare of the people of the State.

5 DELIVERED PROMISE

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J BG-BGE

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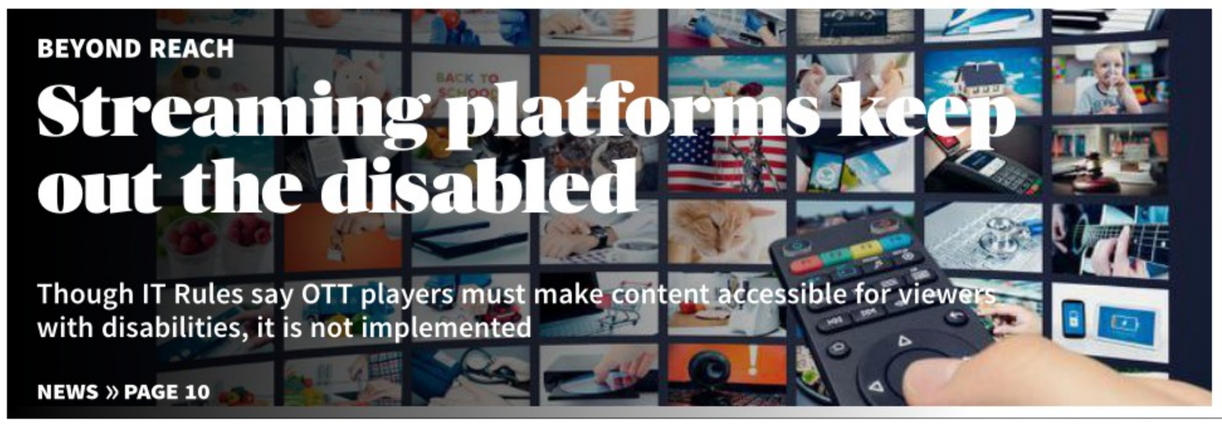

BEYOND REACH

Streaming platforms keep out the disabled

Though IT Rules say OTT players must make content accessible for viewers with disabilities, it is not implemented

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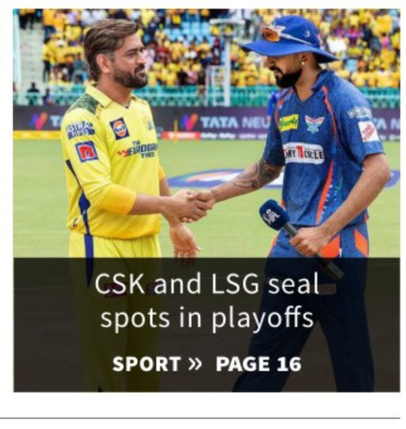
New molecules blunt SARS-CoV-2 virus

SCIENCE » PAGE 12

Agra's zardozi artisans have their hands full

NEWS » PAGE 10



CSK and LSG seal spots in playoffs

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Siddaramaiah sworn in as CM; approves five 'guarantees'

Govt. issues order providing 10 kg of foodgrains per month under Anna Bhagya scheme for each member of BPL family

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Siddaramaiah was sworn in as Chief Minister of Karnataka and D.K. Shivakumar as Deputy Chief Minister at a grand ceremony, attended by thousands, at Kanteerava Stadium on Saturday. Hours later, the first Cabinet meeting, presided over by the former, approved implementation of five "guarantees" that the Congress had promised to voters in its poll manifesto.

After the in-principle Cabinet approval, the Congress government issued orders for implementation of the five guarantees: increasing the foodgrains for each member of a BPL family from 5 kg to 10 kg per month under the 'Anna Bhagya' scheme, providing ₹3,000 dole to unemployed graduates, and ₹1,500 to unemployed diploma holders (in the 18-25 age-group) every month for two years under the Yuva Nidhi' scheme, free 200 units of power per month under the 'Gruha Jyothi' scheme, and free travel for women in BMTC and KSRTC buses in all divisions of Karnataka under the 'Shakti' scheme, and providing grant of ₹2,000 for every women head of a family every month under the 'Gruha Lakshmi' scheme. The estimated cost for implementation of these schemes would be ₹50,000 crore per year. Orders said separate circulars would be issued on rules and conditions for implementation of the schemes. Mr. Shivakumar and eight Ministers, who also took oath on Saturday, attended the meeting. The implementation of the 'Gruha Jyothi' scheme would cost the State exchequer ₹1,200 crore every month, he explained.

Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot with Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, and the Ministers who took oath at the swearing-in ceremony at Kanteerava Stadium, in Bengaluru on Saturday. K. MURALI KUMAR

> Our governance will meet the expectations of the people who have voted us to power seeking change. We will implement all the promises made in the manifesto in the next five years.
> **SIDDARAMAIAH**
> Chief Minister

Who took oath

- Siddaramaiah
- D.K. Shivakumar
- G. Parameshwara
- K.H. Muniyappa
- K.J. George
- Priyank Kharge
- Satish Jarkiholi
- Ramalinga Reddy
- B.Z. Zameer Ahmed Khan
- M.B. Patil

Under 'Yuva Nidhi', he said the amount would be given to graduates and postgraduates who remained unemployed for the first two years after the completion of the course.

Mr. Siddaramaiah said details on eligible beneficiaries and implementation of these schemes would be worked out during the next Cabinet meeting. Departments concerned had been asked to work out details.

Responding to the allegations of a few BJP leaders that implementation of the "guarantees" would push the State into financial bankruptcy, Mr. Siddaramaiah said: "I am confident that the State will not be allowed to become bankrupt by implementation of these 'guarantees'. He also said: "There is no going back on implementation of these schemes at any cost." He said the size of the Budget would grow 10% every year. The 2023-24 Budget size was ₹3.10 lakh crore. The Congress government would present a ₹3.25 lakh crore Budget. Wasteful expenditure would be reduced and steps would be taken for mobilising more revenue for implementing the "guarantees", the Chief Minister promised.

RELATED REPORTS
» PAGES 6, 7

Indira Canteens to be revived

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Congress government has decided to revive all Indira Canteens in Bengaluru and other parts of Karnataka that were previously started by it during its 2013-2018 tenure. Mr. Siddaramaiah said officials have been asked to work out details of finance needed to run these canteens.

Kerala curios to take on Chinese souvenirs

As part of Kerala Souvenir Network project, branded artefacts will be made available in tourist destinations and Responsible Tourism portal

Aabha Raveendran
KOZHIKODE

An artisan of exquisite talent from Wayanad, Biju Babu weaves magic into bamboo, crafting artefacts of unrivalled beauty that echo the allure of Kerala. Yet, his painstaking craftmanship is being eclipsed by an avalanche of inexpensive Chinese imitations flooding the local market.

"I am disheartened. It is casting a shadow over my creative endeavours and spirit," Mr. Babu says. Across the nation, it has become increasingly commonplace to find trinkets and mementos bearing the emblem of Kerala. Yet these "soulless" souvenirs churned out in far-flung factories in China or north India offer no true link to Kerala's vibrant culture. "On closer inspection we find that they are neither made in Kerala, nor handmade. You need not be surprised to find a 'Made in China' inscription on it," says Jaiji Elizabeth, an artisan from Kozhikode.

For artisans like Mr. Babu and Ms. Elizabeth, however, a flicker of optimism is emerging, courtesy an intervention of the Kerala government.

Safety net: The Souvenir Network aims to give a leg-up to Kerala handicrafts. K. K. MUSTAFAH

The Kerala Souvenir Network, launched by Tourism Minister P.A. Mohamed Riyas on Thursday, is perceived to be a solution to the situation.

"The products of this network will be branded under Kerala Tourism and will be made available exclusively at premium government authorised outlets at resorts and tourist spots besides on the Responsible Tourism portal," says K. Roopesh Kumar, State Coordinator of the Responsible Tourism Mission, the nodal agency for implementing the souvenir network.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 8

Shashi Kiran Shetty is new A-G

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Siddaramaiah Cabinet on Saturday chose 47-year-old senior advocate K. Shashi Kiran Shetty as the new Advocate-General.

Mr. Shetty is the younger son of P. Vishwanath Shetty, a former judge of the High Court of Karnataka and a former Lokayukta. Born on September 13, 1975, Mr. Shetty secured his law degree from National Law School of India University, Bengaluru, in 1998. He has been practising as a lawyer in the High Court and Supreme Court.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 3

NEARBY

First day of CET-2023 goes off smoothly

BENGALURU
Day one of the Common Entrance Test (CET) - 2023 went off smoothly on Saturday. There was 82.53% attendance for Biology and 93.78% for Mathematics. Out of 2,61,610 registered candidates, a total of 2,00,457 candidates appeared for Biology and 2,39,716 appeared for Mathematics. » Page 3

Differences led to only eight being inducted

BENGALURU
It appears that differences on names of MLAs to be inducted into the ministry between the camps of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar was among the reasons for swearing in of only eight Ministers on Saturday. Both leaders were in Delhi till Friday night holding discussions with party high command.

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Sending out a message of Opposition unity

Newly elected Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar with Congress and Opposition leaders at the oath-taking ceremony in Bengaluru on Saturday. K. MURALI KUMAR

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Congress used the stage, where Siddaramaiah took oath as Chief Minister, to send out a message of Opposition unity as top leaders of parties from across the country that have stood against the BJP came together on a common platform ahead of the Lok Sabha polls in 2024.

Keenly watched

While efforts at the national level to have a common ground having begun, Karnataka elections were keenly watched for the Congress' ability to defeat the BJP.

With elections to several State assemblies set to take place this year ahead of the Parliamentary polls in 2024, the Karnataka election was seen as an important milestone in stitching together an alliance against the Narendra Modi-led BJP government. Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, who recently completed the Bharat Jodo Yatra, was seen interacting with leaders of other parties on the stage. Former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister and National Conference leader Farooq Abdullah was another leader who was seen wishing and greeting his counterparts from other regional parties, including his political rival in Kashmir Mehbooba Mufti of the PDP.

Among those present on Saturday included Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin; Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar; Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Tejashwi Yadav; Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren; former Chief Minister of Maharashtra Sharad Pawar; CPI (M) leader Sitharam Yechury; CPI leader D. Raja; Janata Dal (United) president Lalan Singh; RLD chief Jayant Chaudhary; MNM founder and actor Kamal Haasan; general secretary of CPI (ML) Dipankar Bhattacharya; founder of VCK Thol. Thirumavalavan; N.N. Premchandran of RSP; Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar of TMC; Priyanka Chaturvedi and Anil Desai of Shiv Sena, and Abdul Samad Samdani of IUML.

Congress leaders

The Congress' political power was also in full sight as Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel, Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukwinder Singh Sukhu, and former Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Kamal Nath were among the many who joined AICC president M. Mallikarjun Kharge, Mr. Gandhi, and Priyanka Gandhi on the occasion of the Congress returning to power in Karnataka.

India will do its best to end the war, Modi tells Zelenksy

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky meet on the sidelines of G-7 summit in Hiroshima. AFP

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

India will do "everything" necessary to resolve the war in Ukraine, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Saturday during a meeting with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, on the sidelines of the G-7 summit in Japan.

Mr. Modi expressed anguish at the devastation caused by the war and conveyed his personal desire to end the hostilities, during the interaction.

"You know much more than any of us the pain of war but I could very well understand your pain and the pain of the Ukrainian people when our children narrated the circumstances in your country after they were brought back," Mr. Modi told Mr. Zelensky.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 8

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Team Erdogan: Supporters of Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan celebrate in front of the Justice and Development Party (AKP) headquarters after polls closed in Turkey's presidental and parliamentary elections, in Istanbul, on May 14. AFP

Anxious waiting: Voters gave Erdogan a lead in the presidential election but the country is headed for a run-off as he could not get an outright majority. REUTERS

Nationalist base: Erdogan's supporters, mostly Islamists, see him as a strongman who stood up against the country's secular Kemalist establishment.

Turkey at a crossroads

All eyes are on May 28, when incumbent Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Opposition leader Kemal Kiliçdaroğlu are ranged against each other in the presidential run-off

The May 14 presidential and parliamentary elections in Turkey were seen by many as a crucial test for the country's survival as a democracy.

President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, who began his reign of Turkey in 2003 as Prime Minister, faced his toughest political fight. Mr. Erdogan was under fire as inflation touched 80% last year (it's now hovering around 40%).

Turkey's currency, the lira, has also fallen by 60% in two years and foreign investors are fleeing the country. Moreover, the February earthquake, in which more than 50,000 people were killed in Turkey, raised questions on both the government's response and its construction permit policy.

As Mr. Erdogan was on the defensive, six Opposition parties came together (the Table of Six), including a Kurdish party, and fielded a common candidate, Kemal Kiliçdaroğlu, a mild-mannered former bureaucrat who promised to arrest Turkey's "slide towards authoritarianism" and fix its economy.

But despite the initial momentum, the Opposition failed to unseat Mr. Erdogan. When the results were out, the President's Justice and Development Party (AKP) and its coalition partner won a majority in Parliament, while he won 49.5% votes in the Presidential election. As Mr. Erdogan fell short of an outright victory, the country will go for a second round of polls.

Mr. Erdogan's supporters, mostly Islamists, who see him as a strongman who stood up against the country's secular Kemalist establishment, thronged the streets with Turkey's national flags to celebrate their President's lead. However, the fact that the Opposition denied a first-round victory to Mr. Erdogan is telling of the losing sheen of his brand of politics – a blend of Islamism, nationalism and welfare that's rooted in Ottoman imperial nostalgia. Now, all eyes are on May 28, when Mr. Erdogan and Mr. Kiliçdaroğlu are ranged against each other in the Presidential run-off.

Text by Stanly Johny

The resistance: The political Opposition — the Republic People's Party — held a rally in the Armutlu neighborhood, which was heavily damaged in the earthquake that struck Turkey in February. GETTY IMAGES

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THE HINDU
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PQM FOR London based fair 27/164 cms IIM Management Consultant Tamil Iyer Girl seeks suitable match in London/ Willing to move to London on spouse visa. 9444439846/ 9444879846

VANNIYAKULAKSHATRIYA, BUSINESS family, Star Bharani, 28, B.Tech, MBA, Business Associate, MNC seeks well educated, Hindu community groom. 9840447199/ raghasudhan1962@gmail.com

HINDU/TAMIL/DKV/Fair/30/165cm/ BDS, M.Sc., (Fore. Odo)/ not working/Drs.family alliance wanted from:Doctors/Engineers/IAS/Professors/same caste/below-35 India or Europe. Contact No: 9443439526.

TAMIL

BE / MNC. Father Business Man, Seeks Alliance for their Daughter. 26/Kettai, Pillai/Mudaliar or Any Caste. Ph : 98400 93322

HINDU PATTINAVA Chettiar Girl age 32 years studied M.D. DNB, Cosmetics Dermo Surgeon. Working Chennai. Seeks Suitable Bridegroom. CNB. Ct : 96779 56767

AYYAVAZHI-NADAR Age 22 / 170 cm Magaram, Advocate Family well Settled Kanyakumari dis only. 9840075922

SC, MBBS,46/152 Working Abroad, Divorce No Issues Seeks Suitable Groom.Send BHP to rajishal773@gmail.com

HINDU MBC, 22/166, Dental Surgeon seeks equally qualified Groom from educated family. CNB. Ct: 7639444788

HINDU, SC –Adi dravida, BE MBA. Age 30. Female, working in Accenture. Contact at : – (M) 9444991091.

MAY,1992 BORN PG Dental Surgeon, Sengundhar, Affluent Chennai Bride seeks alliance proposal from well settled doctors, businessmen & others of good family background – Preferably from same or equivalent community – based at Chennai, Coimbatore, Bangalore. Contact Mr. Varadhan: 98411 58492. Email: 3659pal@gmail.com

TAMIL

MUDALIAR: 27/160, Fair & Good Looking, MBBS, MD (Paed) Final Year, Chennai, Only daughter, Affluent Family, Seeks Caste no bar Groom PG – Doctor / Business / Eng – 8925019776

THENGALAI 24/156, Srivatsam, Kettai3, LLB Hons, Bharatnatyam Dancer, Chennai /Bangalore based Lawyer/CA/Group A Service Groom with 4 years difference preferred Contact : 9902869811

VANNIYAR 28/168cms, Kettai, MBBS, Medical officer, state govt. seeks suitable professional groom Ct:9884244151

Vellalar Pillai 38/157, 58kg, Fair, MCA Manager- Nationalised Bank, Chennai Divorcee seeks equally qualified and Employed Groom Ct: 9445671401

HINDU, ARUNDHATHIYAR- SC, B.E., (E&C) DOB- 25.12.1990 seeks Groom from same Caste. Ct: 9535523396.

TELUGU

REDDIAR 32/165CM MBBS, MS Own Health Centre in Chennai, Well Settled Family. Seeks Industrialist/ Business/ DR/ SR.Professional From Well Settled Family Cnb 8925640111

BRIDES WANTED

BENGALI

ISLAM, 32/ Asst Professor, (MA, Mphil, PhD) Mankachar College, Assam. Seeks beautiful and an honest girl as my life partner, minimum bachelor's degree any background. Contact No. 6397431227

COMPUTER / INFO.TECH

HINDU TAMIL Viswakarma 31 Years Handsome 6 Feet Well Settled Canadian PR Senior Data Analyst Looking For Bride Good Looking Good Educational And Family Background Willing To Settle In Canada. 9444116659, 9283285686.

COSMOPOLITAN

S.SPL DOCTOR (Tamil, Dec/91, v.fair, humble, 185 cm/athletic, Hastham) needs a noble, v.fair, tall, supportive, PG clinical Doctor / CA/ highly qualified bride, fluent in Tamil, English (age 26–28 years) from educated, God fearing families of any upper caste: Parents: 93425–29547 / 90721–18800

ENGINEER

TAMIL BRAHMIN ME/MBA Engineer in KSEB, 172/60, 36 yr, alliance from any Brahmin. Contact: 9846819802 / 9037436763.

HINDI

1985/175CM. IT. 40 Lakhs PA. Chennai. Father Doctor. Seeks well educated bride. WhatsApp: 96290 12248

MALAYALAM

HINDU NAIR 27/176cm Pooram MBA Deputy Manager HDFC Bank Coimbatore. Salary 5-6 Lak PA. Seeks Educated Working Bride. Ct:8449975810.

MARINE ENGINEER Merchant Navy, 28, 167 cm, Hindu, Chothy, Mob-9526432651

WANTED HINDU Vegetarian girl for 34 years Brahmin boy graduate entrepreneur, Trivandrum. Ct: 9249414941

AMBALAVASI YOUTH, B.Com., C.A.(inter) Palakkad, 36 Yrs, handsome, vegetarian, non-alcoholic, God-fearing, employed in a MNC in Kerala, mutually divorced after one month of marriage with no liabilities whatsoever, seeks proposals from parents of ambalavasi or Nair girls (vegetarians only), unmarried or widow / divorcee without any liability. Please contact: 8891637987

A WELL Settled Kerala Viswakarma (Blacksmith) 29/188cm Chothy BE, MBA Running an Engineering Industry in Chennai looking for a Suitable Match. Ct: 8015878921/ 9940168679

WANTED BRIDE Nair (32 years, Visakham) Kalamassery. B.Tech, PGDM. Manager (Foreign Exchange Trading) at HDFC Bank, Ernakulam. Phone 9495307218.

EZHAVA YOUTH 37 yrs, Makam, 24.06.1985, 12.40 a.m., working abroad, airline commercial pilot, Upper Middle Class, Kollam, Karunagappally. 9447222299, 9400620880

MBA / CA / ICWA

GUJARATI BRAHMIN boy CA/CS/ICWA invites alliance from CA, IT, SAP professional bride. Mob: – 8758782911

NRI

SOUTH INDIAN Christian Parent looking for alliance to son Engineer working in UAE age 32 contact 7397549752 / 00971523351695

Tamil Christian Nadar, Gd Looking, B.Tech, M.S Computer Science (USA) Software Engineer Working in MNC in Toronto Seeks an Educated Bride, a slim, Good-Looking, Flair for Fitness Whatsapp: 9945536139, thamby3232@gmail.com

TAMIL

CSI CHRISTIAN NADAR, Chennai settled 36yrs/165cms, B.E., working in MNC. Innocent Divorcee seeks same caste working or qualified Bride. Ct: 94434 82782

Handsome, Fair & Tall Groom 26 years, Christian-RC, Mech Er., Canada PR. Seeking Christian (R.C./ C.S.I.) well-Educated & Employable Professional Bride willing to settle in Canada. Ct: 9176900066

CASTE, RELIGION Nobar alliance invited from Educated Widow/Divorcee without Children around 50yrs for a Muslim Businessman aged 70, B.A Monthly income 2.6 Lakhs. Ct:9443011354

MUSLIM, ENGINEER, Qatar. Divorced 34yrs/65Kg/174cm Slim, Looking for a pious, educated, slim, beautiful girl. Unmarried, divorced with no kids are considered. +974–33001391.

USA H1 B Visa MS, RC Nadar 178cm, 30yrs Fair Boy Expecting Qualified Good Proposals. Contact: 9003181992

MUSLIM,Age 40 Dr.Professor Seeks Bride a Good Life Partner. No Demand .Call: 9342585072

MUDALIAR GROOM, First Marriage, 45, 5ft 7inch, BE – ECE, Bangalore. 9886493369 , rajdmohan@outlook.com.

IYER SRIVATSA 45 yrs USA LA / Chennai Capgemini Senior Progam Manager Never Married Veg Seeks Suitable Girl Ct: 8825457700 /+1(818) 9279760

ARCOT MUDALIAR MBA IIM 168/Sep'88 Thiruvadirai(CleanHoroscope) Handsome Fair TEETOTALLER, Bangalore 45L. Seeks Unmarried Qualified Smart Girls. CasteNB. 9940434055, 9742010729

59, CLEAN Habits Good Looking Own House Stable Income Seeking Fair Issueless Bride. Ct: 8610446647

TAMIL

HINDU NADAR 26, 180cm, Income 200000, Working in Bangalore Seeks Suitable Bride. Ct: 9380791999

CHETTIYAR, 24MANAI, MBA, 47, 5.4ft, well settled, young looking divorcee/no kids, worked with all major Telecoms as Sr.Manager, now owns mid size Internet solutions Pvt Ltd. company with TRAI's Cat–C license, 30lacs p.a., own villa, seeks bride below 42, unmarried, divorcee,widow, Caste no bar, Mob: 6379257390

VANNIYAR AGE 29,B.com,C.A.Work at Infosys,Salary 75k,Wanted Bride Same Cast (Sevvai Dosham).Ct 9841665583

TAMIL VISWAKARMA, 37/5.9, B.E., MBA., Chithirai, Kanni, HCL, Chennai, First Marriage seeks Good Looking, Fair Bride. CNB. Ct: 99440 97021

AGAMUDI MUDALIAR Elite Family 33/170 Rohini/ Mirugasim M.Sc IT Works in MNC Seeks UG/PG Bride. 9176780777

24 MANAI TELUGU CHETTIAR 30/180 B.Tech, MBA, Bharani, HR Manager @ Infosys, Chennai. Seeks Suitable Educated & Working Bride. 9789056884 / subbudu@gmail.com

ALLIANCE INVITED from a settled Hindu family for our son 36/175cms, Good Looking, B.E., M.S (UK), Caste no bar, Prefer Pet Lovers. Contact: 8148796783–Trichy

HINDU DKV Pallan Age 41/167cm Manager Nationalised Bank, Salary 14 Lakhs PA. Seeks Suitable Bride. Ct: 99652 11259

CASTE NOBAR Hindu Tamil affluent only child SC 30/170cm Handsome MS (CS) Software Engineer Microsoft Seattle USA H1B visa I140 appd seeks suitable Bride (Tamil/Telugu/Malyalam/Kanada) preferably working/studying in USA. Ct: 9445442020/9445006500

HINDU BRAHMIN, 50, Remarriage, State Govt. Employee seeks any Brahmin Bride. Ct: 0461-2338755, Cell No: 89037 24659

PILLAI 29 6 feet MCA IT Punarpusam Chennai left leg & hand weak due to accident seeks suitable caring Mud/Pillai Bride Geetham 9884858014

KONGU VELLALA Gounder 48yr B.Tech 176cm Inc 6 Lacs Working in Canada Divorcee CNB 9710093999/ 8939691888

27, BE, 175cm, Inc 100000, VIP, Well to do family, Caste no Barseeks Suitable Bride. 9710093999/8939691888

HINDU NADAR MBA IAM, 27yrs, 170cm, Income 200000, Seeks Suitable Bride. KA Raman Nadar 9380791999

HINDU 34/169 PG Working in MNC, as a Manager in US, Seeks professionally Qlfd. bride from decent family. age 28–32 yrs. CNB Ct: 8754486314

AGAMUDAYA MUDALIYAR Divorced 41 Mirugasiridam PhD TNGovt Job Rs1.21Lakh PM 170cm 70kg SlimFair 7904550883

IYER GOUTHAMA Rohini, 14.3.1997, 26 yrs, 168 cms, B. Tech, M.Sc. Genomic Medicine (London, UK), Vegetarian, Settled in Chennai, Affluent business family. Director, Leading Instrumentation company. Seeks Telugu/ Tamil Brahmin girl, professional, aged below 24 years. WhatsApp Parent: 93422 68247

WELL SETTLED, Healthy NRI IT Business Consultant, Looking for Good Looking Female Companion/Soulmate, Hindu age 46, BE, ct: 9487810558

✔ PILLAI(KARUNEEGAR), DOB:24–01–92, BE, Veg, Job: MNC (Software) Chennai, Annual Income: 23.5 lakhs. Seeking a suitable bride from the same or any other community. Ph: 9841784047 Email: pingme.arul@gmail.com.

DEVANDRA KULA Vellalar (PL) DOB : 09.03.2000, Mesham / Ashwini , DCE (BE.,) Young Entrepreneur. BPCL Dealer and IOCL Transporter, Own House and Land in Dindigul seeks a Girl with Educated and Good Family Background. Ct.98940 55699

HINDU NADAR, 33/175, Hastham, Fair, Handsome, Good family, Clean habits, B.Tech., Global MBA, Strategy analyst, Dubai seeks suitable pleasant Bride, good family. Contact: 98431 52680. joie51@yahoo.com

Tamil, 32 Y, 185 CM, 98 KG, Lead Position, PGDCA BE, Financial Institution California USA. Seeking Bride working in USA / willing to relocate. Liberal family values preferred. Hindu Vannar. Caste No bar. Ph: +91 9786265786

MUDALIAR 28/170/FAIR MBA Moolam own House Good Family seeks girl from good family. Subcaste OK 9597830845

35, IYANGAR, Vadakalai, Kashyabam, 15L P.A. ,Chennai. Contact : 91769 86643

TAMIL

HINDU NADAR VIP 25, 165cm, MBA, Income 2000000 Seeks Suitable Bride KA Raman Nadar 9380791999

SENGUNDA MUDALIYAR 28, MBBS, 162cm, Income 50000 Seeks Suitable Bride 9710093999/ 8939691888

HINDU NADAR, 40/163, B.Tech, MS, Working Canada, Well Settled Seeks Working Bride. Caste NoBar 8148166505

AYYAVAZHI-NADAR Age 23 / 170cm Viruchigam, Advocate Well Settled Kanyakumari Dis only. Ph:9840075922

WE ARE looking for an alliance for our son aged 30 years, working and residing in Chennai, an MBA graduate, Saiva Pillai caste, native of Trichy. Contact with details 7358859182

HINDU KONGU Vellala Gounder 36/183 Sadayam, MBA Job &Business 30L P.A. Working Chennai Upper Middle Class. Suitable Girl any Degree & Any Caste in B.C. Whatsapp: 9360323979

MUDALIAR, 19–10–1989/6'2", Thiruvadirai, Mithunam, BE, MBA, IT sector,11 LPA, CHE, Sub caste: No bar, seeks a good looking, grad, employed girl btw 27–30 yr from a good family, 8056119148.

BE from BitsPilani 6'1 Mudaliar Boy born in Nov 91 Wkg in Bangalore Sal 40lacs seeks Bride from same or allied castes 5'4 BE,CA Doctor. 7382620365

CASTE NOBAR 38 /172 M.Tech(CSE) SWE Chennai 18 Lakhs. Aswini Star Seeks Suitable Bride Ct: 9841151575

TAMILNADU BASED issueless NRI groom, second divorcee 58 / 178 cm. seeking an issueless bride who has to be intensive and intensified, trusty to stay protracted. Ct.88387 44120.

HINDU NAIDU 27yrs B.Tech (IT) 182cm, Inc 200000 pm Seeks Fair Good Looking Girl. 9710093999 / 8939691888

MUKKULATHOR– KALLAR – Doctor – M.B.B.S – Swathy 25/175 seeks reputed family bride 9445283563 / 7358298379

MUDALIAR: 29/180, Handsome, B. Tech, MS, Project Manager, USA, 100000 Dollars PA, Affluent Family, Seeks Bride USA / Canada – 9444039984

1970, CIVIL Engineer Chennai, 2nd marriage well Settled. Seeks Bride from good family. Ct:98400 49518

ALLIANCE FROM unmarried Iyer girls for bachelor 57 own business traditional teetotaller Iyer. 9447496006

BRAHMIN IYER VADULAM Uthiram Nov 1977 BSc(MCA)MNC, IT 24Lakh PA Seeks unmarried Brahmin Girl 9841071359

GROOM BRAHMIN TK, Iyengar,46 Arthreya,Pooradam, Asst.Manager MNC Logistics Rs.40000pm Own 2BHK in Chennai Brahmin Subsects No Bar 9962860285

IYER VADAMA 43 Divorcee with Traditional Values & Modern Outlook MNC S/W Engr Bangalore seeks Suitable Alliance from Family-Oriented Unmarried Brahmin Girl with Good Family Background respecting our Customs and Traditions. Mobile: 9952892314

IYER, GARGAYA, Brahacharanam, Avittam, Widower 43/156 11 yrs Child. Partner, Family concern, Own House Ct: 9940469993 / tprakash1@gmail.com

DIVORCEE REVATHY 37/186 B.E. M.B.A Sr. Manager Fair Iyer Boy Seeks Graduate Brahmin / Veg Girl 9176090042

BRAHMIN IYER Boy, Koundinya, Magam, 36 B.E. MNC, Bangalore. Seeks suitable Bride. 9036204255 / 9035786675

BRAHMIN UNMARRIED 59ys Elec.smart 40k. Sks Brahmin any vegetarien decent family.Widow Welcome. 9840846524

BRIDE WANTED
Christian B.E., M.S (USA), 32, 5 feet 10 inches, fair handsome boy working as a Senior Software Engineer in USA, H1B visa, seeks god fearing Christian good looking girl preferably working as a software engineer / Doctor in USA. Caste no bar. 9487347604

IYENGAR VADAKALAI, Bharadwaja Gotra, Nov 1991, 5'11, B. Tech Nit, 36 Lpa, Mnc @ Bangalore, Seeks Brahmin Bride, Never Married, Age 23 To 29, Contact: matrivr23@gmail.com

EliteMatrimony.com

Exclusive matchmaking service for the elite from Matrimony.com Group

ELITE BRIDES WANTED

MUDALIYAR, 25, 170 cms, Businessman, BE Civil. Lives in Chennai. Belongs to an affluent business family with a good net worth. Looking for an amiable match. Contact: 6366448344

MUDALIYAR, 28, 180 cms, Technical Project Manager, MS. Lives in Coimbatore. Father is a Director. Family is financially well off with a good net worth. Looking for a suitable match. Contact: 6366448343

CASTE NO BAR, 24, 183 cms, Businessman, BE. Lives in Chennai. Parents are Entrepreneurs. Family is financially well off with a good net worth. Looking for a like minded match. Contact: 6366448344

RREDDY, 27, 183 cms, National Sales Manager, MBA. Lives in Chennai. Father is a working professional. Family is financially well off with a good net worth. Looking for a like minded match. Contact: 6366448343

REDDY, 29, 178 cms, Businessman, BE (Mech) IIT & MBA. Lives in Chennai. Belongs to an affluent business family with a good net worth. Looking for an affable match. Contact: 6366448344

ELITE GROOMS WANTED

SENAI THALAIVAR, 23, 160 cms, Infrastructure Analyst, B.Tech. Lives in Chennai. Father is a CEO. Family is financially well off with a good net worth. Looking for a like minded match. Contact: 6366448343

INTER CASTE, 28, 165 cms, Software Professional, MBA. Lives in Chennai. Father is a working professional. Family is financially well off with a good net worth. Looking for a suitable match. Contact: 6366448344

NAIDU, 27, 157 cms, Architect, B Arch. Lives in Trichy. Father is a Businessman. Family is financially well off with a good net worth. Looking for an affable match. Contact: 6366448344

REDDY, 24, 170 cms, Entrepreneur, MBA. Lives in Chennai. Parents are Entrepreneurs. Family is financially well off with a good net worth. Looking for a compatible match. Contact: 6366448344

LINGAYATH, 27, 173 cms, Post Graduate, from a Bangalore based high profile family with very good net worth. Looking for an amiable match from the same community in Bangalore. Contact: 6366448346

Call for Free Consultation ✆ 63 66 44 83 47

TAMIL

VOKKALIGA GOUNDER, Bharani, CA/27/164/foreign bank, cultured, affluent family in Chennai. Remarriage (void within 2 months). seeks South Indian Hindu match below 32years from OBC/BC/FC. Ct : 9444026269

SOZHIA VELLALA/ Visagam/ 31/5.6/ PG/ Self Employed seeks alliance from Chennai. Send Horoscope/ Family/ Profession/ Contact details to balasai1410@hotmail.com / Mob:92821 11566

DR. MD, Oncopathologist, Fair, Good Family, Lucky Girl, Caste No Bar. Contact : 9486435320, 9487047757.

SAIVA PILLAI Tirunelveli girl 26/165, Punarpoosam/ Mithunam, BE (CS) BITS employed MNC 35 LPA seeks groom from same & allied community age between 27 to 32. Ct: 8072149714/ 6383601807

GROOM WANTED for Vanniyakula Kshatriya Doctor Bride, MS(OG) 25/165 Salem, Educated Affluent & Renowned Family, Looking for Equally Professional Match. Ct: 9042036699

SC 26/B.SC {CS} MBA.,Govt.Job [Canara Bank–Officer] Rs.45,000p.m. Govt.or Pvt. Seeks Bridegroom:9444993417

✔ MUTHURAJA, 30, 160 cms, Slim, Fair, B.E, Software Engineer, drawing 12 Lakhs per annum lives in Chennai; family is affluent , divorced , no kids , caste no bar looking for an amicable match, send profile along with horoscope to rajusundar@hotmail.com

HINDU MUDALIAR
Thiruvathirai
Super Speciality Doctor 34 seeks Doctor / Industrialist groom between 34 & 37. Caste no bar
Ct: 98842 02884
vijayalakshmivalaya@gmail.com

TELUGU

RICH (KAMMA Naidu) 23, Fmous Textile Mills & Star Hotels Family (500cr.) seeks Rich groom. Ct: 7200067015

NAIDU ISSULESS DIVORCE, Born 1975, Class II Govt Officer. Seeks Groom Preferably Chennai, CNB –9360167989

NAIDU/46 MCA/IT, Div (no issues), seeks suitable groom. Ph. 9445691753 mail: pattabin@gmail.com

NAIDU 28/165 Beautiful, MBBS, MS, Reputed Hospital,1000000. PA,Affluent Family, CNB. 7299576644,7299576666

LOOKING FOR GROOM Age : 30 to 35 TELUGU BRAHMIN PhD USA MATCH Contact:vvkrishna1062@gmail.com

Telugu Bestha Naidu Bride age 31 years Height 163 permanent job as Assistant Professor working in Delhi from well to do family seeks suitable Bridegroom from decent family. CASTE NO BAR send Bio-data with photo to her father's WhatsApp No.9440109317 / 9391031354.

HINDU BALIJA, Divorceed 31/155cms MBA, Working in MNC, Seeks Naidu Groom Divorced/Unmarried 32-35Yrs/ 180cm, working ,CNB,Ct: 9176659800

✔ Naidu/Balija, Good looking Girl, 29 5'6" Divorced (less than 1yr married) working in Australia, Masters (AUS) Affluent family. Looking for a well educated like minded match. +91 9600179302/ +1 5169744715

URDU

URDU MUSLIM Labbai 30yrs/150cm, B.E Software Engineer/1.3 lakh PM. Seeks B.E, M.E, Engineer Groom KA & TN State Only. Ct : 94426 69961.

SMU speaking good looking girl, fair, slim, M.A lit, 24/163cm, rich,Educated Family Expectation : Groom well mannered with good job Ph: 7708707096

SM SHEIK M.Arch / P. G. Professional within 30 for Beautiful, Religious M. Arch in Chennai. Ct: 86819 43456. Email: ziaahamed@yahoo.com

COSMOPOLITAN

AGE 46 Christian Divorced–Annulled. MNC Transferred to Paris France Looking for Suitable Bride. 9677151440

DIVORCEE

CHRISTIAN, CHARTERED Accountants, 56 years, divorcee, working in Chennai, no child. seeks any Degree holder aged 45 above from a good family divorcee / widow. Ct: 8667387588

HINDU TAMIL Boy 36yrs Punarpoosam/ Kadagam B.Sc., Nautical, Second Officer in Cargo Ship, 18 Lpa, Leagally Divorced, No Issues. Seeks Educated Bride from Cultured Family. Ct: 6369004108

FLIGHT PILOT 36 years seeks Tall Slim Bride aged below 32 years, Whatsapp 94422 64610, 89033 67145

SPECIALIST DOCTOR seeks Tall Slim Bride(Widow/Divorcee) below 38 years, whatsapp details photo 9442264610

SUITABLE EMPLOYED partner for a tall Hindu boy, known family, 49 years, B.tech, MS, US citizen, employed, divorcee, contact : 91-9645145972 WhatsApp

DOCTOR

DM DOCTOR, Catholic 34,173, Asst Prof in Chennai, seeks suitable Doctor/Civil Services/ CA bride.Ph 8122083188

SOUTH INDIAN Christian Parent looking for alliance to son Doctor doing clinical attachment in UK age 29 contact 7397549752 / 00971523351695

HINDU MBC Maruthuvar (Vaithiyars), MBBS Own Clinic, 33, Tall and Good Looking seeks Alliance For Remarriage from Divorced Bride or Unmarried. MBBS, BSMS, BAMS or other degrees from Good Family Background. Caste No Bar. Ph: 9442788649, 7598179790

NAIDU, 27/182, Magam, MD., Studying in USA seeks Bride from Decent family willing to study /work in USA. Contact: 9788391456 / 9677122110.

Continued on Page 4

Challenger's speech: Turkey's Republican People's Party (CHP) chairman and presidential candidate Kemal Kiliçdaroğlu addresses a crowd in the rain during an election campaign rally in Ankara on May 12. AFP

Back to the past: People take pictures wearing Ottoman costumes near Balikligol (or Pool of Abraham, Halil-Ur Rahman Lake), in the southwest of the city centre of Sanliurfa in Turkey. During his Presidency, Erdogan has increasingly drawn on Turkey's Ottoman heritage. AFP

Numbers game: Supporters of Erdogan, who has been in power for more than two decades — first as Prime Minister, then as President — form a strong base. But the run-off will decide if he can continue his reign. REUTERS

Sea of support: Istanbul hosted the most crowded election rallies of the ruling Justice and Development Party. REUTERS

Poll fever: A woman holds a placard at a rally organised by the ruling party. REUTERS

Key date: The fate of Erdogan, whose party helped him craft a powerful role as head of state, will be known on May 28. REUTERS

First day of CET-2023 goes off smoothly across Karnataka

The Common Entrance Test was conducted at 592 centres across the State, including 121 in Bengaluru

Food being served to students who wrote the CET at St. Joseph's High School in Bengaluru on Saturday. SUDHAKARA JAIN

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Day one of the Common Entrance Test (CET) - 2023 went off smoothly on Saturday. There was 82.53% attendance for Biology and 93.78% for Mathematics.

Out of 2,61,610 registered candidates, a total of 2,00,457 candidates appeared for Biology and 2,39,716 appeared for Mathematics.

The CET, which is the gateway for entrance to professional courses like Engineering, Veterinary, Farm Science, Pharmacy, Naturopathy & Yoga, Nursing, and others, was conducted in 592 centres across the State, including 121 in Bengaluru.

However, at one of the centre in Bengaluru South students experienced power cut for few minutes. The government PU college located in Madiwala had a power cut, but the authorities said there was no inconvenience to the students.

The students who attempted the exam on the first day felt that Biology was easy and Mathematics was tough and lengthy. "Compared to the previous year, the Mathematics paper was tough and it had lengthy questions. But, Biology was easy," a student said.

On Sunday, the test will be conducted for Physics and Chemistry as per the schedule.

Swearing-in ceremony had little impact on test

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Despite traffic restrictions in many parts of Bengaluru, owing to the oath-taking ceremony of the new Chief Minister and other Ministers, the CET-2023 was held in a hassle-free manner on Saturday.

Most students who had their centres around the Kanteerava stadium, the venue of the swearing-in, also reached their centres without any difficulty.

In view of the oath-taking ceremony, the Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) had taken several measures to facilitate the easy commute of students anticipating traffic congestion. Besides, it had asked students writing exams in Bengaluru to reach their venues two hours before the scheduled time. Police personnel were also instructed to help students reach their centres on time.

However, students who were allotted to write exam at St. Joseph's Indian Composite PU College, Vittal Mallya Road, which is a few metres away from the stadium, found it difficult to concentrate as there was too much disturbance. "It was very noisy and we found it difficult to concentrate," a student said.

In a special arrangement at St. Joseph's Indian Composite PU College, breakfast and lunch was provided to students at the centre.

Earlier on May 7, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's roadshow in Bengaluru coincided with the NEET exam. Though students feared hurdles to reaching the exam centres, the roadshow did not cause any traffic bottlenecks.

Man held on charge of house break-in

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Girinagar police on Friday arrested a 37-year-old habitual offender, after a case of house break-in was reported on Wednesday. The owner of the house, Yogesh Ural, had gone to work after locking the house, said the police. The accused broke into the house, ransacked the premises, and escaped with valuables worth ₹ 1.9 lakh.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (South Division) P. Krishnakant said that the accused, Manikanta, is a habitual offender involved in a series of theft cases in and around the city.

The accused hailed from Dharmapuri of Tamil Nadu and used to come to city to recce locked houses and steal valuables.

Traffic restrictions

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In view of the IPL match, arrangements have been made to ensure the smooth flow of traffic in CBD areas on Sunday from 2 p.m. to 10 p.m.

The police have imposed a ban on traffic on Queens Road, MG Road, Raj Bhavan Road, Central Street Road, Cubbon Road, St. Marks Road, Museum Road Kasturba Road, Ambedkar Veedi Road, Trinity Junction, Lavelle Road, Vittal Malya Road, and Nrupathunga Road.

Parking will be provided at UB City parking lot, Kings Road, Kanteerava Stadium, BMTC TTMC Shivajinagar 1st floor, and old KGID building.

Hailstones and heavy rain in parts of city

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Heavy rain lashed parts of the city on Saturday, bringing a relief from the sweltering summer heat. What surprised residents in some parts of the city were the accompanying hailstones.

"It started raining at 5 p.m. and we were surprised to see hailstones while driving towards Bidadi from Bengaluru city," said Rajesh, who works in Bidadi Industrial Area.

The hailstones were reported in Bidadi, Kengeri, Ramanagara, Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway, Kumbalgodu, and Mysuru Road on Saturday evening.

Meanwhile, waterlogging was also reported on the Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway near Ramanagara and it led to traffic snarls between Ramanagara and Bidadi, according to traffic police officials.

However, the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) officials have not responded to the waterlogging.

This is not the first time the expressway has been flooded.

In August 2022, various stretches on the expressway were flooded and vehicles were submerged and stuck for hours.

Again in October, after rain, parts of the expressway were flooded. Again in March this year, parts of the expressway near Ramanagara were flooded.

Meanwhile, during the rain in the city, a tree branch fell on a car which was damaged at Race Course Road. Several branches fell down after rain along with wind, according to Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) control room officials.

Bengaluru is expected to get rain on Sunday too according to the India Meteorological Department (IMD). Thunderstorms with lightning and strong winds are expected in parts of south Karnataka on Sunday.

"Next 48 hours: Generally cloudy sky. Light to moderate rain/thundershowers very likely. Maximum and Minimum temperatures very likely to be around 33 and 22 Degree Celsius respectively," IMD said in a statement on Saturday.

Alok Mohan is in-charge DG&IGP

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

With the current head of the police force going on Central deputation on Monday, the State government has given additional charge to the seniormost IPS officer, Alok Mohan, as the Director-General and Inspector-General of Police from Monday until further orders.

Mr. Mohan is presently serving as Director-General of Fire and Emergency Services, Commandant General of Home Guards and Civil Defence and Head of Special Disaster Response Force.

Apart from DG&IGP, Mr. Mohan has also been given charge as chairman, Karnataka State Police Housing Corporation.

As per procedure, the State government had to prepare a recommendation list of all DGPs and send it to the UPSC. The UPSC panel selects the three seniormost officers and sends it back to the State government to chose one among them.

Though this process takes some time, the State government usually sends the list one month in advance at least. However, since the appointment of Mr. Sood was sudden, the State government did not have the time and hence this is the ad hoc arrangement until all the formalities are completed, sources said.

From Page One

Shashi Kiran Shetty is new Advocate-General

Shashi Kiran Shetty

He was designated as a Senior Advocate by the High Court of Karnataka in 2014.

He had represented several political leaders in the election petitions, deemed universities, and private medical and engineering colleges on issues related to admissions and affiliations, multinational companies and a host of other litigants, in the High Court and the Supreme Court.

Mr. Shetty was one of the Senior Advocates who represented the Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee and Mr. Siddaramaiah, who was the then the leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Assembly, in the case related to the disqualification of 14 MLAs before the Apex Court in 2019.

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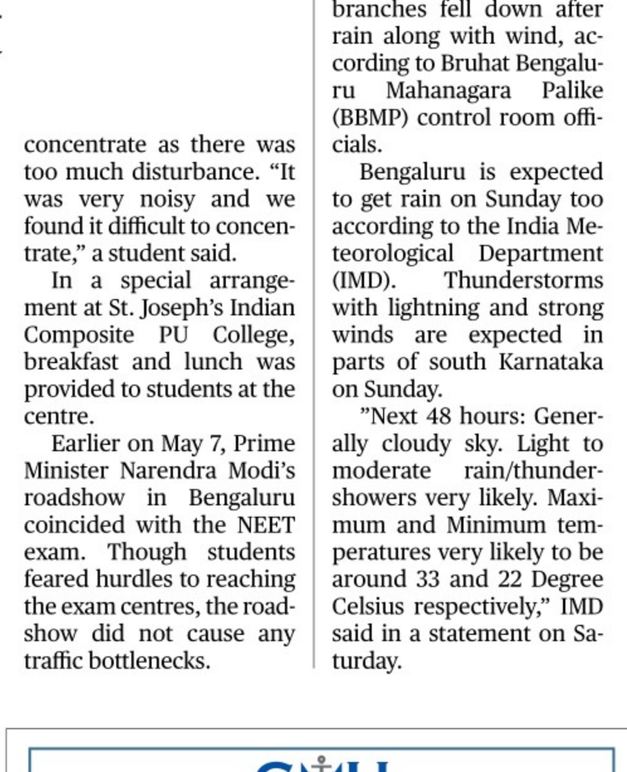

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‘Withdrawal of ₹2,000 note will have little impact on MSME and real estate sectors’

Stakeholders say there will be some issues in case of large volume transactions with respect to employee salaries and payments to suppliers

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

KASSIA has said it will be least impacted, as the volume of such notes in circulation is relatively lower and a very large part of the cash in the system is unaffected by it. FILE PHOTO

The industry is likely to take the decision by the RBI, to withdraw the ₹2,000 note from circulation, in its stride and its impact on the micro and small scale industries will be negligible, said K.N. Narasimha Murthy, president, KASSIA.

Explaining the reason why it will barely impact MSMEs, he said the apex bank has given a wide window for depositing the notes, till September 30, for getting it exchanged. There will be a few practical problems in case of large volume transactions with respect to employee salaries and payments to suppliers as these are substantially done in ₹2,000 notes, but there is no scope for complaint as they continue to be valid as legal tender.

As far as the economy is concerned, KASSIA echoed the views of experts to state that it would be least impacted, as the volume of such notes in circulation is relatively lower and a very large part of the cash in the system is unaffected by it.

“In recent times, we have seen that banks too were not issuing ₹2,000 notes and the volume of such notes got reduced and limited only to non-banking channels. So the apex bank’s decision was targeted at sucking out these remaining notes in circulation from the system and probably try to reduce the unaccounted money in the hands of the people,” the KASSIA president observed.

The KASSIA also counselled the industry fraternity and the small entrepreneurs not to confuse this withdrawal with demonetisation, stating that while the latter had temporarily affected the economy, the latest move seemed more like a clean-up of the unaccounted money in the system.

However, a portion of the micro, small and medium enterprises sector, which sees an incentive in cash-based transactions, could still be impacted, he acknowledged, and said the only way out was to move towards non-cash transactions.

Gopal Reddy, president, FKCCI, said: “The ban of the ₹2,000 note may not impact the bigger players in the industry. However, small traders who buy their raw materials or pay for their other purchases will be affected. Anyway, it is good that the ban comes with a time frame of exchanging such notes.”

Real estate agents have also said that the impact of withdrawing the currency will not have any impact on business.

Manoj R. Sastry, who runs Balaji properties in HSR Layout, said: “So far, we have not seen any impact due to this decision by the government. Most payments are done online, so there are no issues for major real estate brokers.”

Man caught while trying to break into provision store

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 33-year-old man was caught allegedly trying to break into a provision store at Nagenahalli in Yelahanka new town police station limits on Thursday. The accused was thrashed before being handed over to the police.

The accused has been identified as Prakash M.N., from Davangere. The police control room received a call from one of the residents saying that a thief was caught.

The patrolling vehicle rushed to the spot and detained Prakash and took him to hospital for treatment.

According to the police, Prakash pretended to be sleeping in front of the provision store and was trying to break the lock with a hammer and two screwdrivers. Residents heard the noise and caught him. The accused tried to escape, but fell down and sustained injuries. He was chased after, caught, and thrashed, said the police.

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Advt No:JNC/AO/03/2023 Date: 19.05.2023

Notification

JNCASR, an autonomous research institution and Deemed to be University under the aegis of the Department of Science & Technology, Government of India, invites applications for ten positions of **Junior Admin Assistant** and three positions of **Technical Assistant,** on direct recruitment basis. For more details, refer to Centre’s website: https://www.jncasr.ac.in/openings/administrative-staff

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E- TENDER NOTICE
Request for proposal (RFP) for Selection of System Integrator for Implementing Passenger Information System and Surveillance system for the selected buses in Trivandrum District

Sl. No.	Name of Project	E-Tender ID	Bid Submission Last Date
1	Request for proposal (RFP) for Selection of System Integrator for Implementing Passenger Information System and Surveillance system for the selected buses in Trivandrum District	2023_SCTLT_570455_1	06.06.2023 03:00 PM

Date and Time of opening Price Bid: To be intimated later
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ನಂ:ದಾಮಪಾ:ಕಾಅ1:ಇ.ಟೆಂಡರ್:02:2023–24 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 17–05–2023
ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ (ಇ–ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ)
2019–2020 ರಿಂದ 2023–24 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಮಹಾತ್ಮ ಗಾಂಧಿ ನಗರ ವಿಕಾಸ ಯೋಜನೆ (ಎಂಜಿಎನ್‌ವಿವೈ) – ಪ್ಯಾಕೇಜ್ ನಂ.13 & 2019–2020 ರಿಂದ 2023–24 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಮಹಾತ್ಮ ಗಾಂಧಿ ನಗರ ವಿಕಾಸ ಯೋಜನೆ (ಎಂಜಿಎನ್‌ವಿವೈ) ಪ್ರೋತ್ಸಾಹಧನ – ಪ್ಯಾಕೇಜ್ ನಂ.14 ರ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಇ–ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಡಬಲ್ ಕವರ್ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಕರೆಯಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು/ವಿಜಯನ್ನಿದಾರರು/ ಸರಬರಾಜುದಾರರು ಇ–ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ವೆಬ್ ಸೈಟ್ www.eproc.karnataka.gov.ಟಿ ನಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಾಗಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬಹುದು. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ ಕಛೇರಿಯ ವೆಬ್ ಸೈಟ್ www.davanagerecity.mrc.gov.in ರಲ್ಲಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಇ–ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಸಹಾಯಕ ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: +91–8046010000, +91–8068948777 ರಿಂದ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು.
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ವಾಸಾ/ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ/18/ಕೆಎಸ್‌ಎಂಸಿಎ/2023–24
ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು
(ಸಿವಿಲ್)ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ

PUBLIC NOTICE
The General public are hereby informed that my clients Mr. Puneet Kinra S/o.Late Rajkumar Kinra, Aged about 50 years, R/at No.602, Brigade Mayfair, Cambridge Road, Ulsoor, Bangalore- 560 008, and his Associates have entered into an MOU with Mr. Dilip B. Pirgal, S/o.Mr.Pirgal, Aged about 50 yrs, No.24, Killari Road, Bangalore – 560053 for the Development and subsequent Sale of his Property bearing Survey No.13/1, 17/1, 17/2, 18 and 19/1 Kempathimmahalli, Kasaba Hobli, Devanahalli measuring approximately 12 Acres morefully mentioned in the Schedule, and have been in possession of the same from the time of MOU.
It is further informed that my Clients have filed the Suit bearing Com.OS.1/2023 before the Commercial Court Bangalore Rural (Vacation Bench) seeking Injunction, Non-Interference with the Possession and Non-Alienation of the Schedule Property which is pending the Hon'ble Court was pleased to pass an Order issuing Notice to Appear before the Court on 01/06/2023 to Mr. Dilip B. Pirgal, the general public are informed and warned not to deal in any way with Mr. Dilip B. Pirgal with respect to the Schedule Property, and in spite of this information any person who deals with the said property will do so at his own risk and consequence.
SCHEDULE PROPERTY
Survey No.13/1, 17/1, 17/2, 18 and 19/1 Kempathimmahalli, Kasaba Hobli, Devanahalli :13/1-00.39 (acres guntas)17/1- 01.32 (acres guntas)17/2-01.25 (acres guntas)19/1-03.36 (acres guntas)18-02.13 (acres guntas) And 5/1 additional 3 guntas together defined as “Property”
Advocates: Mr. F. Mir. Parveez Ahmed, Advocate, M/s. Kreioz Legal Solutions, No. 207, Regency Enclave, 4, Magarath Road, Bangalore-560025. Ph: 080-41142030-31, Mobile: 9844078628

Executive Engineer, Public Works, Department, Kolar Division, Kolar-563101.
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Phone: 08152-222022, Fax: 08152-227443
e-Tender Notification -K.W.3
Tender Notification No. 01/2023-24 Date:15.05.2023
Tender is invited through e-Procurement for 1 work in the limits of Srinivasapura Taluk, Kolar District Public Works Department from the Registered Contractors under **H/A:8443-Deposit Contribution. Amount put to tender**: **Rs.57.28** Lakhs EMD Amount: **Rs.1.15** Lakhs Period for completion of work: **9 months.** Contractors may download the tender documents KW- 3 from Karnataka State e-Procurement portal **(Viz., http://eproc. karnataka. gov.in) .** Filled in tenders shall be uploaded on or before **4.00 p.m.** on **06.06.2023** through Karnataka State e-Procurement portal. Technical bids of tender received will be opened after **4.30 p.m.** on **07.06.2023** in e-Procurement. Further details regarding the works and also for details about this tender notification please contact e-Procurement portal and also you may contact this office during working hours.
Note: Any changes in this Notification will be published in e-portal only.
Sd/- Executive Engineer, PWD Division, Kolar.
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BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, Rajajinagara Division, Sir. M. Vishweshwaraiah Commercial Complex, 12th Main Road, 2nd Block, Rajajinagara, Bengaluru-560010
No.: EE/RNR/E-PROC/01/2023-24 Date: 20.05.2023
SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through GOK e-Procurement Portal only)
Tender for the following works on item rate are invited as Standard Bid Documents **KW - 1** by the Executive Engineer, Rajajinagara Division from the registered contractors of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike or equivalent registration with CPWD / KPWD / Railways / MES or any State Government Organizations.

Sl. No.	Name of the Approved Works	Estimated Cost (Rs. in Lakhs)	EMD Amt (in Rs.)
1	Establishment of Temporary Control Room for Monsoon Period (01.06.2023 to 30.09.2023) in Rajajinagara Sub Division. **Ward: 141, 143, 144, 145. Category - Others.**	5.00	12,500/-
2	Establishment of Temporary Control Room for Monsoon Period (01.06.2023 to 30.09.2023) in Sriramamandira Sub Division. **Ward: 139, 140, 142. Category - SC.**	5.00	7,500/-

Calendar of Events: (1) The Tender document can be downloaded from the GOK e-procurement website. **(2)** Last date for uploading the filled proposals **26.05.2023** upto **4:00 p.m. (3)** Date of opening of Financial proposals is **29.05.2023 at 12:30 p.m**. Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours or website **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in.**
Sd/- Executive Engineer, Rajajinagara Division, BBMP

HC: Nominated members of municipal bodies have no right to vote in Council elections

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A Division Bench of the High Court of Karnataka has held that nominated members of municipalities and town panchayats have no right to vote in the elections to the Legislative Council from the Local Authority Constituencies (LAC).

When Article 243R (2)(e) mandates that the nominated members of the municipal bodies have no right to vote in the meetings of the municipal bodies, they cannot have the right to vote in the elections from the LAC, said the Bench, comprising Chief Justice Prasanna B Varale and Justice Ashok S. Kinagi

The Bench upheld the verdict of the single judge, who on November 3, 2011 declared that nominated members had no voting rights in the elections from the LAC and had ordered for deletion of names of the nominated members of various municipal bodies in Chikkamagaluru district from the electoral rolls of LAC.

Referring to the provisions of the Constitution and the judgments of the apex court, the Bench made it clear that only the elected members were to be considered as “councillors” as per Section 2(6) of the Karnataka Municipalities Act, 1964 and not the nominated members.

Pointing out that Section 2(6) of the Act empowered only the “councillors” to cast their vote in the meetings of municipal bodies, the Bench said that elected members were chosen by popular vote and carried with them the mandate of the people, whereas, nominated members were appointed by councillors.

“The elected members and the nominated members cannot be said to be belong to the same class,” the Bench observed, while dismissing the appeals against the single judge’s verdict.

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TENDERS

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Empanelment for Furnishing Vendors and Architects
RHFL invites applications from established and experienced Furnishing Vendors and Architects, fulfilling the eligibility conditions for empanelling the same.
Last date for submission is **31.05.2023** (5.00 p.m)
For further details and application procedure, visit our website: www.repcohome.com

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, AYAAN Pasha S/o Jaggu Jaganath, R/o, No.a–85, Sector–4, H M T Colony, Jalahalli, Bangalore, Karnataka–560013, Was Adopted by Mumtaz W/o Mohammed Jawed on 26/01/2022. Hereafter I'll Be Known as Ayaan Pasha S/o Mohammed Jawed

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BENGALURU

SUNDAY, MAY. 21		
RISE	05:53	SET 18:39
RISE	07:00	SET 20:21
MONDAY, MAY. 22		
RISE	05:53	SET 18:39
RISE	07:52	SET 21:16
TUESDAY, MAY. 23		
RISE	05:53	SET 18:40
RISE	08:45	SET 22:07

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	35	28
Mysuru	36	22
Bengaluru	34	23

Bengaluru Today
35ºC The weather will be warm and humid. Night also will be pleasant. Spell of light rain and thundershower may occur at some places.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
34ºC Morning will be pleasant. Day will be warm and humid. Night will be pleasant. Spell of rain and thundershower with gusty winds to occur.

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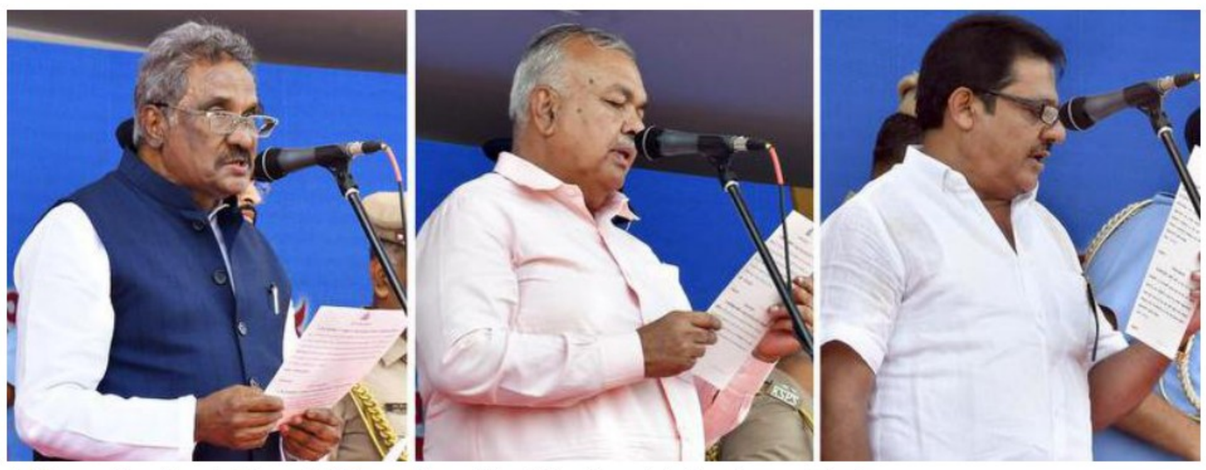
Three among eight Ministers who took oath are from Bengaluru

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar reportedly keen on Bengaluru Development portfolio



K.J. George, Ramalinga Reddy, and B.Z. Zameer Ahmed Khan taking the oath in Bengaluru on Saturday. BHAGYA PRAKASH K.

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Among the eight who took oath as Ministers on Saturday, three - K.J. George, Ramalinga Reddy, and B.Z. Zameer Ahmed Khan - are from Bengaluru. This, despite the Congress not faring well in the city and the BJP increasing its vote share, has raised many eyebrows.

Mr. George, six-time MLA, and Mr. Reddy, eight-time MLA, were expected to make the cut in the first round of the Cabinet expansion and they did. However, Mr. Khan, five-time MLA, making the cut has caused some consternation.

Six-time MLAs and the young urbane faces of the party, Dinesh Gundu Rao and Krishna Byre Gowda, are expected to join the Cabinet in the next expansion.

Meanwhile, N.A. Haris, Shantinagar MLA, and Krishnappa, Vijayanagar MLA, are also lobbying hard to join the Cabinet, sources said.

Mr. Haris' candidature is supported by Deputy Chief Minister (DCM) D.K. Shivakumar, sources said. However, given that Mr. Khan, a close associate of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, has already been made a Minister, Mr. Haris is unlikely to find a berth in the Cabinet, sources said.

While there was an intense competition among the two Ministers as to who will hold charge of the city, Mr. George won that battle during the previous tenure of the Congress, also under Mr. Siddaramaiah. However, this time, Mr. Shivakumar has expressed his interest in the Bengaluru Development portfolio and will likely get it too, sources said.

Multiple sources in the Congress confirmed to *The Hindu* that Mr. Shivakumar had sought the city Ministry along with another key portfolio. Mr. Shivakumar hasn't been a MLA from the city but he has been an eight-time MLA from Kanakapura, on the outskirts of the city and earlier held the Urban Development Department in the S.M. Krishna Cabinet.

Meanwhile, lobbying is still on to secure the Bengaluru Development portfolio. A senior party leader argued that Mr. Shivakumar had never been actively involved in the city's politics and in light of this, giving him charge of the city would pull the party down in a critical election season.

"Given that civic polls are likely to be held by end of this year and Lok Sabha elections by mid-next year, Mr. Reddy, who has been the face of the party in the city, would be a better candidate. He has also been working president of the Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee, Bengaluru Division too," the leader said.

However, he was quick to add that the organisational skills of Mr. Shivakumar, proven to be extremely good in light of the recent Assembly election results, would play a key role in the civic polls, if he was given charge of the city.

Flexes and banners galore, in city, but no action yet

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Banners which were put up ahead of the swearing-in ceremony in Bengaluru on Saturday. BHAGYA PRAKASH K.

As the new government was sworn in on Saturday, the city was dotted with thousands of flexes and banners congratulating Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D. K. Shivakumar, apart from welcoming a host of Central leaders, including Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi.

However, the Congress is not alone in this. The city has been flooded with flexes and banners congratulating all the MLAs who won the Assembly polls recently, cutting across party lines. This is despite a clear ban in place on all forms of flexes, banners, and similar outdoor advertisements.

Flexes were put up on many electricity poles, footpaths, and even near small shops in the city on Saturday.

Citizens pointed out that if the leaders were responsible they would have asked their party workers not to violate the law and cause visual pollution. "There are thousands of flexes and banners across the city which is creating a lot of visual pollution and ends up as garbage littering the streets tomorrow. Despite there being a clear ban, why is the civic body not acting against these leaders?," asked Manjunath K., a resident.

Rajashekhara, another resident, suggested that the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) should come out with the details of violations by each party and make a full public disclosure as to which party and leaders put up how many flexes and banners.

"This menace cuts across party lines. The Election Commission of India did a fairly decent job during the elections. But there has been a sudden spurt post results. the civic body should not only impose penalties, but also make public disclosures," he said.

The BBMP has conducted several banner-removal drives in the past and continues to do so. However the civic body has not acted against illegal flexes and banners post Assembly results. An official from the BBMP said: "We are removing the banners and flexes put up in the city and action will be taken against those who have put up illegal banners."

The BBMP is booking the violators under the Karnataka Open Places (Prevention of Disfigurement) Act, 1981, which provides for six months' imprisonment, a penalty of ₹1,000, or both.

Inspector sustains minor injuries during crowd control

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Traffic police Inspector Rao Ganesh and two others sustained minor injuries while controlling crowds at the Kanteerava Stadium during the Chief Minister's swearing-in ceremony on Saturday.

Mr. Ganesh was managing the crowd at the public entry gate ahead of the programme and noticed a sudden surge. The people failed to notice the steps and fell on one another.

In the melee, he along with two others sustained bruises and were taken to a nearby hospital where they were treated as outpatients and discharged later.

NMIT holds festival

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

NITTE Meenakshi Institute of Technology (NMIT) on Friday organised a national techno-cultural festival Anaadyanta-2023 on its premises in Yelahanka.

Vasuki Vaibhav, composer, singer, music director, who was the chief guest at the event, after inaugurating the festival, said: "Young engineers should always become the part of the dream behind the project or an assignment instead of involving mechanically without focus. Only then, our nation can grow and technological solutions can be found for challenges in society."

THE HINDU
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PUBLIC NOTICE

This notice is issued on behalf of my client **Sri. N.Manjunatha** to bring to the notice of the general public that the Original JDA dt.17.03.2011 Doc No.6496/2010-11 of Book I, CD.No.MDPD80 and registered in the office of the Sub-Registrar Mahadevapura, Bangalore, GPA dt.17.03.2011 Doc.No.326/2010-11 of Book IV, Stored in CD No.MDPD80 and registered in the office of the Sub-Registrar Mahadevapura, Bangalore, JDA Rectification deed dt.06.03.2013, Doc No. 14086/2012-13 of Book -I, CD No.BNSD270 and registered in the office of the Sub- Registrar Banasawadi, Bangalore, Confirmation of JDA dt.06.03.2013, Doc.No.14083/2012-13 of Book I, CD No.BNSD270 and registered in the office of the Sub-Registrar Banasawadi, Bangalore, GPA dt.06.03.2013, Doc.No.554/2012-13 of Book IV, CD No.BNSD270 and registered in the office of the Sub-Registrar Banasawadi, Bangalore and sharing agreement dated 10.03.2013 in respect of Sy.No.27/4, measuring 18 3/4 Guntas or 20448 Sq.ft., Situated at **Hagaduru Village, K.R.Puram Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore** has been lost. All the persons are hereby informed not to deal or carry out any transaction with anyone on the basis of the above said deeds. If anyone has already carried out or being carried out kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within **7 days** from this present along with that Police Complaint is also given vide Lost Report No.0569070/2023, dated 20.05.2023.

Y. Sowmya Yadav, Advocate
Samvruddhi Legal, # 83, Ground Floor, 5th 'A' Cross, 21st Main, J.P. Nagar 2nd Phase, Bangalore-78. **M : 9916343921**

SOUTH EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY
E-TENDER NOTICE FOR ENGINEERING WORKS

Sr. No. (1) E-Tender No.: DRM-ENGG-BSP-T-06-23-24, Date: 16.05.2023. Work: Execution of Civil Zonal Works between Baradwar (In) to Robertson (Ex) under the jurisdiction of Sr. Section Engineer/ Raigarh **for the period ending on 30.06.2024. Tender Value:** ₹ 70,00,000/-. **EMD:**₹1,40,000/-. **Completion Period:** Upto **30.06.2024.**

Start Date of Submission of Tender: From 29.05.2023. Last Date of Submission of Tender: Upto **11.00 hours on 12.06.2023.**

The complete information of above e-Tender Notice is available over websites: **https://www.ireps.gov.in** Bids other than e-bids shall not be accepted against above Tender.

Divisional Railway Manager(Engg)
CPR/10/66 ***S.E.C.Rly.,Bilaspur.***

South East Central Railway @secrail

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY
OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE

Sr. DEE/TRD & GSU/JP, acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders for following works. Manual offers are not allowed against these tenders, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. **Sr.No.1. NIT No**: GSU-JP-EL-2023- 24-06; **Name of work**: TRD Work in connection with maintenance infrastructure facilities for Trainset/DDPRS at Jaipur yard. **NIT cost (Rs.)**: 1,05,15,029.28; **Bid Security (Rs.):** 2,02,600.00; **Tender opening date**: 12.06.2023; **Sr.No.2. NIT No**: GSU-JP-EL-2023-24-07; **Name of work**: JP - Electrical work in connection with maintenance facilities for Train-sets and Memu at pit line Jaipur. **NIT cost (Rs.)**:1,46,03,857.00; **Bid Security (Rs.):** 2,23,000.00; **Tender opening date**: 12.06.2023; **Date & time of closing e-tenders**: On tender opening date Upto 15.00 hrs; **Date & time of opening e-tenders**: On tender opening date after 15.00 hrs; **Complete details of tender can be seen on website: http://www.ireps.gov.in**

536-AN/23

Please join us on /NWRailways

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
Tender Notice No. 07/SBC/23 Dated: 15.05.2023

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-tenders for the following works:

SL	Name of Works	Approx. Value
1	Yesvantpur: Operation and daily maintenance including supply of consumption for existing water recycling plant for inter of collection well to outlet of GLR pump in good condition. For a period of two years (Water required for coach cleaning).	Rs. 36,56,272/-
2	Whitefield - Proposed Construction of Type-II quarters (8 units). Maintenance period is 12 months.	Rs. 1,82,07,925/-
3	Bangarpet - Proposed Improvements to coach watering facilities at Bangarpet station. Maintenance period is 6 months.	Rs. 1,26,44,342/-
4	Hindupur - Proposed construction of Type - III quarters (4 units) at Hindupur in Assistant Divisional Engineer / Hindupur sub-division. Maintenance period is 12 months.	Rs. 1,17,70,571/-
5	Chikka Banavara-Hassan section: Proposal for construction of toe wall at km 93/500-800 between B.G. Nagar-Hirisave section. Maintenance period is 6 months or one monsoon period whichever is later.	Rs. 1,65,59,825/-
6	**Sub Work I:** Yelahanka - Bangarpet sec: Proposed construction of RCC sump for RUB No. 21/A at km 136/000-100 between Kolar - Bangarpet stations and provision of Automatic Pumping and covering for sumps at 82/A, 75/A, 72/A between Chintamani - Kolar stations in Assistant Divisional Engineer/ Bangarpet sub-division. **Sub Work II:** Yelahanka - Bangarpet sec: Proposed improvements to approach roads of RUBs 103/A, 86/A, 68/A, 54/A, 37/A and 12/B and rain water collecting tank of RUB No. 70/A in Assistant Divisional Engineer/ Bangarpet sub-division. **Sub Work III:** Yelahanka - Bangarpet sec : Proposed drainage improvements to RUB No. 33/A at km 128/800-900 between Kolar and Srinivasapur stations. **Sub Work IV:** KSR Bengaluru - Jolarpettai sec : Improvements to drainage arrangement at RUB no. 34/A at km 128/300-400 in Assistant Divisional Engineer/ Bangarpet sub-division. **Sub Work V:** Yelahanka - Bangarpet sec : Proposed construction of RCC sump for RUB no. 37/B at km 126/700-800 and provision of automatic pumping for RUB 75/A at km 107/400-500 in Assistant Divisional Engineer/ Bangarpet sub-division. Maintenance period is 6 months.	Rs. 4,31,58,288/-
7	KSR Bengaluru Division : Collection and supply of ballast in connection with the work of KSR Bengaluru - Mysuru Through Ballast Recoupment for a length of 37.00 kms from 13/500-30/100 UP, 31/800-45/000 up, Ramanagaram (Rd1 and Rd4), Settihally (Rd1 and Rd4), Hanakere (Rd1 and Rd4) and Y (Rd 1 and Rd 4) and for a length of 4.600 km from km 129/000-130/000 up line, Pandavapura (Rd 1 and 4) and Naganahalli (Rd 1 and 4) in Senior Divisional Engineer/W/KSR Bengaluru section.	Rs. 5,13,63,840/-
8	**Sub Work I :** KSR Bengaluru - Proposed Improvements in third floor, Sr. DPO office and officer's chambers in Divisional office. **Sub Work II:** Outside brightening of staff quarters and officers quarters in MG colony (637 units). Maintenance period is 6 months.	Rs. 4,53,28,238/-
9	Chikka Banavara - Hassan Sec : Proposed improvements to Bridge No. 266 at km 85/700-800 between Yediyur and BG Nagar station. Maintenance period is 6 months or one monsoon period whichever is later.	Rs. 1,81,16,193/-
10	KSR Bengaluru - Proposed Maintenance of water supply and water hydrants of all PFs and pit lines at KSR Bengaluru station for 2 years.	Rs. 31,29,390/-
11	**Sub Work I:** Proposed construction of approach road (300m x 3m) for track machine siding at station KGI in connection with the work of "Construction of Track machine siding for a length of 420m at 6 major stations in KSR Bengaluru division (KSR Bengaluru, Whitefield, Bangarpet, Kengeri, Yesvantpur, Yelahanka)". **Sub Work II:** Proposed construction of RCC retaining wall near buffer end (10m x 5m) for laying Track machine siding at station Kengeri in connection with the work of "Construction of track machine siding for a length of 420m at 6 major stations in KSR Bengaluru division (KSR Bengaluru, Whitefield, Bangarpet, Kengeri, Yesvantpur, Yelahanka)". **Sub Work III:** Bidadi - Construction of track machine rest room and water supply in connection with track machine siding of minor station at Bidadi stations. Maintenance period is 6 months .	Rs. 69,46,882/-
12	**Sub Work I:** KSR Bengaluru - Mysuru sec: Collection of ballast including mechanical loading etc at "Y" depot in connection with the work of TBR for a length of 5.00 km from 45/0-50/000 upline, TBR for a length of 6.00 km from 1/300-7/300 dn line in Senior Section Engineer/PWAY/Kengeri sec, TBR for a length of 6.20km from 7/300-13/500 dn line in Senior Section Engineer /PWAY/Kengeri section. **Sub Work II:** Supply of ballast including dumping in connection with the work of "Construction of track machine siding for a length of 420m at 15 minor stations in KSR Bengaluru division" - Bidadi 200m length and in connection with the work of "Construction of track machine siding for a length of 420m at 6 major stations" - Kengeri 270M length.	Rs. 2,28,66,908/-
13	KSR Bengaluru - Dharmavaram sec : Proposed central drain 1650m in connection with the work of "Balance work in Devarapalle - Hindupur section in connection with Yelahanka - Penukonda doubling project". Maintenance period is 6 months or one monsoon period whichever is later.	Rs. 84,67,688/-

Last date for submission of bids: **Up to 15:00 hrs. of 07.06.2023**

For details log on: **www.ireps.gov.in**

Senior Divisional Engineer/Co-ord Bengaluru

PUB/101/AAV/PRB/SWR/2023-24

S.W.Railways sw_rly SWRRLY southwesternrailway SWRRLY

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY
ई–निविदा आमन्त्रण सूचना

मंडल रेल प्रबन्धक, इंजीनियरिंग, उत्तर पश्चिम रेलवे, जोधपुर द्वारा भारत के राष्ट्रपति के लिये एवं उनकी ओर से ई–निविदा के माध्यम से प्रचलित नियमो के अन्तर्गत निर्धारित प्रपत्रो में निविदा निम्न कार्यो के लिए क्रमानुसार आमंत्रित की जाती है। **ई–निविदा सूचना सं0 2023–24**: 47; **कार्य का नाम व स्थान:** Dewatering in water logging prone LHS in the jurisdiction of Sr DEN/ West Jodhpur (120 No. RUBs); **अनुमानित लागत रूपये:** 94,58,586.96; **बयाने की राशि रूपये:** 1,89,200.00; **ई–निविदा सूचना सं0 2023–24**: 48; **कार्य का नाम व स्थान:** Strengthening of Minor bridges of Jodhpur- marwar Junction, Sathin road-Jodhpur and Pipar Bilara Section under ADEN/LINE of Jodhpur Division.; **अनुमानित लागत रूपये:** 2,34,35,613.11 ; **बयाने की राशि रूपये:** 2,67,200.00; **ई–निविदा सूचना सं0 2023–24**: 49; **कार्य का नाम व स्थान:** Strengthening to bridges, by providing pointing pointing, painting, marking of DL, HFL, flooring,apron, epoxy etc. under sub-division ADEN/Jaisalmer of Jodhpur division; **अनुमानित लागत रूपये:** 2,31,90,104.02 ; **बयाने की राशि रूपये:** 2,66,000.00; **ई–निविदा सूचना सं0 2023–24**: 50; **कार्य का नाम व स्थान:** Strengthening of Important bridge no. 85, 92,26 & Major bridges no. 80A (DN & UP) 95A, 103A, 105,73,74,2, 26A of JU-MJ,JU-SWF,PPR-BARA Section under ADEN/LINE of Jodhpur Division; **अनुमानित लागत रूपये:** 2,34,73,047.23 ; **बयाने की राशि रूपये:** 2,67,400.00; निविदा सूचना संख्या 47 to 50 of 2023–24 निविदा प्रस्तुत करने की तिथि 09.06.2023, 10.06.2023, 12.06.2023 & 13.06.2023 को 13.00 & 15.00 बजे तक है। वेबसाईट का विवरण जहाँ पर ई–निविदा देखी व भरी जा सकती है – **www.ireps.gov.in**

540-AN/23

हमें /NWRailways पर फॉलो करें

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
Tender Notice No. 13/2023 Dated: 16.05.2023

The undersigned on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tender through IREPS only for supply of following items: **Tender closing Time: 10:30 Hrs.**

Sl	Tender No.	Description in Brief (E-Open Tenders)	Qty.	Tender Due on
1	29231002	Steel Lock Nuts For WAP-7/WAG-9 Locos	40 Sets	12.06.2023
2	33231324	One Coach Set of Control Arms	63 Set	08.06.2023
3	45231496A	B Check kit, suitable for DG Set	137 Sets	05.06.2023
4	45231503A	C Check kit, suitable for DG Set	104 Sets	05.06.2023
5	11231457	Fuel Pump Motor	24 Nos	08.06.2023
6	17231586	Bushing Traction Rod	1272 Nos	15.06.2023
7	16231058	Bearing Insert to EMD part No. 8442226	345 Nos	14.06.2023
8	16231030	Clutch Drive Assembly	25 Nos	12.06.2023
9	45231261	VRLA Battery 1100AH	18 Sets	05.06.2023
10	77231002	Paint Enamel Smoke Grey	50150 Ltr	09.06.2023
11	11221097	Modified transition screw coupling for CBC	240 Nos	12.06.2023
12	29231047	Filter assly for oil cooler ventilator	07 Sets	08.06.2023
13	56235066A	Relay, QNA1, 24V DC, 8F-8B.	1000 Nos	03.06.2023
14	56231089	PVC Power Cable 2C x 35 Sq.mm	200 Kms	19.06.2023

Corrigendum
For tender no. 60225041B notice no 11/2023, Due Date changed from 17.05.2023 to 26.05.2023.

For details log on: **www.ireps.gov.in**

Principal Chief Materials Manager, Hubballi

PUB/102/AAV/PRB/SWR/2023-24

S.W.Railways sw_rly SWRRLY southwesternrailway SWRRLY

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby notified that our Client is desirous of purchasing immovable properties more particularly described in the '**Schedule**' hereunder and referred to herein collectively as the "**Schedule Properties**" from its present owner, **M/s. ALPHA DESIGN TECHNOLOGIES PRIVATE LIMITED** (hereinafter referred to as the **"Owner"**).

The Owner has represented to our Client that it is the sole and absolute owner of the Schedule Properties, having a clear and marketable title and unrestricted rights of alienation over the same. The Owner has further represented that the Schedule Properties are free from all kinds of encumbrances, charges, lien, litigation and/ or any third–party rights/ claims of any nature whatsoever.

Notice is hereby given to the general public that any persons having or asserting any benefits, objection, demand, claim, right, title and/ or interest in respect of the Schedule Properties, or any part or portion thereof, of any nature whatsoever, are hereby called upon to notify the same in writing, together with all details and original documents in support of such claim, to the undersigned at the address mentioned below within a period of **15 (Fifteen) days** from the date of this Notice, failing which, it shall be conclusively presumed and deemed that the aforesaid Owner has a clear and marketable title to the Schedule Properties and that none else have any right, title, interest or claim whatsoever in respect of the Schedule Properties. In such event, our Client would be at liberty to proceed with the proposed transaction in respect of the Schedule Properties on the basis that there are no objections and/ or claims whatsoever with respect thereto. Any objections and/ or claims received after the expiry of the period mentioned above shall neither be entertained nor shall be binding on our Client.

SCHEDULE
SCHEDULE PROPERTIES

Item No. 1:

All that piece and parcel of immovable property being commercial land measuring an extent of 12,646.42 square meters (or 1,36,125 square feet or 3 Acres 5 Guntas), bearing Khatha No. 171/171/71/72, E-Khatha No. 150200401300200171, Old Khatha No. 129/171, within the limits of Doddabanahalli Gram Panchayat, comprised in Survey Nos. 71 and 72 (less an extent of 1 Gunta or 1,089 square feet reserved for Kadugodi - Hoskote Main Road), situated at Katamnallur Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru East Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District, and bounded as follows:

On the East by : Kadugodi - Hoskote Main Road;
On the West by : Land bearing Survey No. 70;
On the North by : Land bearing Survey No. 73; and
On the South by : Remaining Land in Survey No. 71.

Item No. 2:

All that piece and parcel of immovable property being commercial land measuring an extent of 8,296.06 square meters (or 89,298 square feet or 2 Acres 2 Guntas), bearing Khatha No. 170/170/71, E-Khatha No. 150200401300200170, Old Khatha No. 128/171, within the limits of Doddabanahalli Gram Panchayat, comprised in Survey No. 71 (less an extent of 11 Guntas or 11,979 square feet reserved for Kadugodi - Hoskote Main Road), situated at Katamnallur Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru East Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District, and bounded as follows:

On the East by : Kadugodi - Hoskote Main Road;
On the West by : Land bearing Survey No. 70;
On the North by : Remaining land in bearing Survey No. 71; and
On the South by : Konadasapura Village Boundary.

Shrikara P.K. / Vinuth Gowda
Partners

Place: Bengaluru
Dated: 21st May, 2023

DUA ASSOCIATES
Advocates & Solicitors
130/1, 2nd Floor, Ulsoor Road, Bengaluru - 560 042
Tel : 91-80-2558 8799/2558 9909
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Published by Nirmala Lakshman at No 19&21, Bhagwan Mahaveer Road, Bengaluru-560001 and Printed by C. Sridhar at Plot No. 13-D, Bommasandra-Jigani Link Road, KIADB Industrial Area, Bommasandra, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-560099 on behalf of THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., Chennai-600002. Editor: Suresh Nambath (Responsible for selection of news under the PRB Act).
RNI No. KARENG/1970/49960 • ISSN 0971 - 751X

Newly elected Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar bowing down at the staircase of the Vidhana Soudha on Saturday. PTI

Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi at the event. K. MURALI KUMAR

Rahul Gandhi with Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin, and Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel. K. MURALI KUMAR

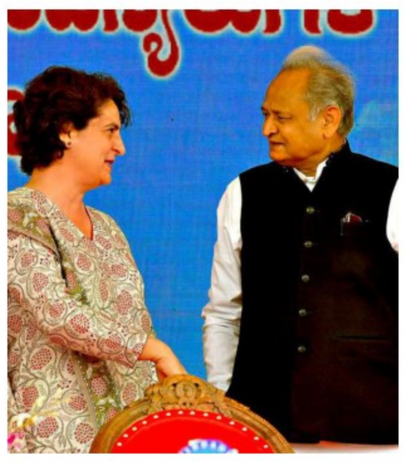
T.R. Baalu, Kamal Nath, Sitaram Yechury, and D. Raja at the swearing-in ceremony. BHAGYA PRAKASH K.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah with NCP chief Sharad Pawar. K. MURALI KUMAR

Former Chief Ministers of Jammu and Kashmir Mehbooba Mufti and Farooq Abdullah. BHAGYA PRAKASH K.

Actor Kamal Haasan at the oath ceremony. K. MURALI KUMAR

Shivarajkumar, Geeta Shivarajkumar, 'Duniya' Vijay, Umashree, and Sadu Kokila, along with D.K. Suresh. BHAGYA PRAKASH K.



Priyanka Gandhi and Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot. K. MURALI KUMAR

Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Tejashwi Yadav and AICC chief M. Mallikarjun Kharge. BHAGYA PRAKASH K.

SNIPPETS

In the name of...

Several Ministers, including Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, took oath in the name of god. D.K. Shivakumar took oath in the name of deity Gangadhara Ajjayya. Satish Jharkiholi took oath in the name of Buddha, Basavanna and Dr. B.R. Ambedkar. G. Parameshwara took oath in the name of the Constitution. B.Z. Zameer Ahmed Khan was the only Minister who took oath in English in the name of Allah and his mother.

3-day session from tomorrow

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said the Cabinet decided to hold the session of the Legislative Assembly for swearing in of newly elect MLAs as members of the House for three days from Monday. Nine-time MLA R.V. Deshpande will be the pro tem Speaker. He would administer the oath of office to the newly elected MLAs. The new Speaker would be elected next week.

Film stars add colour

Actor Shivarajkumar and his wife Geetha were among the film personalities present at the ceremony. Others included Duniya Vijay, Bhavana, Ramya, Sadu Kokila and Umashree, who have identified themselves with Congress. Producer Rajendra Singh Babu was also present.

Demonetisation and Modi

Is there a connection between Prime Minister Narendra Modi's decision to demonetise and his visits to Japan? AICC president M. Mallikarjun Kharge on Saturday said, "Mr. Modi announces his decision to demonetise whenever he leaves to Japan. Last time that he went to Japan, he announced demonetisation of ₹1,000 currency notes. This time, he has announced withdrawal of ₹2,000 currency notes. This is causing trouble to the people of the country."

Rahul was the happiest

Rahul Gandhi seemed to be the happiest among the leaders on the stage. While his smiling face captured the mood in the Congress, he mingled with leaders from other parties easily. He brought both Siddaramaiah and D.K. Shivakumar up front on stage and lifted their hands to show unity among leaders. He was constantly engaged in a banter with his sister Priyanka Gandhi.

Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar sworn in amidst a sea of party workers and admirers

The joyous event for Cong., which is returning to power after 5 years with a mandate of 135 seats in the 224-member House, lasted for over an hour

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Amidst a boisterous crowd running into several thousands, and in the presence of a host of national leaders, Congress Legislative Party leader Siddaramaiah on Saturday took oath as the 24th Chief Minister of Karnataka along with KPCC president D.K. Shivakumar who was sworn in as the Deputy Chief Minister.

The joyous moment for the Congress, which is returning to power after five years with a mandate of 135 seats in the 224-member House, lasted for over an hour at the Kanteerava Stadium.

Supporters at the swearing-in ceremony of the new Congress government at Kanteerava Stadium in Bengaluru on Saturday. BHAGYA PRAKASH K.

8 Ministers take oath

Along with Mr. Siddaramaiah and Mr. Shivakumar, eight senior Congress leaders were sworn in as Cabinet Ministers by Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot. They included G. Parameshwara, K.H. Muniyappa, K.J. George, Priyank Kharge, Satish Jarkiholi, Ramalinga Reddy, B.Z. Zameer Ahmed Khan and M.B. Patil, whose names were cleared late on Friday night. Mr. Siddaramaiah sent their names to the Governor's office on Saturday morning. The names were cleared after multiple deliberations by the Central leaders even as several senior leaders and Cabinet hopefuls remain on tenterhooks. "People have blessed the Congress and the victory of the party is a victory of people. Our governance will meet the expectations of the people who have voted us to power seeking change. We will implement all the promises made in the manifesto in the next five years," Mr. Siddaramaiah announced after he was administered the oath of office.

Loudest applause

Loudest cheers from the crowd was reserved for Mr. Siddaramaiah, and the veteran leader was welcomed with a thunderous roar and the crowd erupted in joy as the veteran leader was called to take the oath. In fact, Mr. Siddaramaiah's oath taking was hardly audible in the stadium as the crowd continued its loud cheer.

The mood at the Kanteerava Stadium remained electrifying hours before the oath ceremony as Congress supporters - many carrying flags and donning tattoos -trooped into the stadium. With the entry of each of the leader on the dais, the crowd erupted. While an estimated 40,000 supporters were in the stadium to witness the occasion with Mr. Siddaramaiah taking oath for his second term, police estimated the total crowd in and around the stadium to be close to a lakh.

'Defeat of hate'

Soon after the oath-taking ceremony was completed, Rahul Gandhi promised that the Congress will provide corruption-free government and said that the love and truth had trumped over hatred and corruption. "We have truth and poor people by our side. The people of Karnataka have defeated corruption and hate despite the BJP having money, power and the police. In the market of hate, people have opened a store for love and harmony," he said.

CM blames Modi, Nirmala for denial of special grant to State

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The newly sworn-in Karnataka Chief Minister on Saturday accused Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the State suffering a loss, as its legitimate special grant of ₹5,495 crore mentioned in the interim report of the 15th Finance Commission, was denied to it.

Soon after the first Cabinet meeting of the Congress government, Mr. Siddaramaiah alleged that the previous BJP governments led by B.S. Yediyurappa and Basavaraj Bommai did not make efforts for the State to recover its due.

₹5,495 crore

The Chief Minister said in the interim report of the 15th Finance Commission, it was recommended that Karnataka would get a special grant of ₹5,495 crore, which the government in the State did not take up.

Removed from report

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, who was elected from Karnataka to the Upper House of the Indian Parliament, removed the special grant from the final report, Mr. Siddaramaiah claimed. "Because of Narendra Modi, Karnataka suffered a loss of money which is not a small amount," the Chief Minister alleged.

"As many as 25 MPs including Union Minister Pralhad Joshi did not ask the Centre," he said.

The State contributed ₹4 lakh crore to the Central taxes but received its share of only ₹50,000 crore per year, he said.

The State should get a share of at least ₹ 1 lakh crore in the Central pool of taxes, he added.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar during a press meet at the Vidhana Soudha in Bengaluru on Saturday. SUDHAKARA JAIN

Y.S. Avinash Reddy PTI

CBI summons Avinash Reddy again tomorrow

The Hindu Bureau
KURNOOL

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on Saturday issued a notice again to YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) Member of Parliament from Kadapa Y.S. Anivash Reddy to appear before it in Hyderabad on May 22 for questioning in the case pertaining to the murder of former MP Y.S. Vivekananda Reddy.

Mr. Avinash Reddy had skipped appearing before the CBI in Hyderabad for the second time on May 19, and left for Pulivendula stating that his mother Y.S. Lakshmi was unwell.

The YSRCP leader later admitted his mother in Viswabharathi Hospital here for treatment to some cardiac problem, and had since been taking care of her.

Meanwhile, the health condition of Ms. Lakshmi was said to be stable, and doctors were treating her in the ICU.

The Kurnool police were providing security to Mr. Avinash Reddy in the hospital.

Differences over pick of Ministers led to only eight being inducted

Hard bargaining between Siddaramaiah and DKS on inclusion of their loyalists is said to be the reason for non-induction of more Ministers

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Both Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar were in Delhi till Friday night discussing with party high command the names of Ministers to be inducted into the new Cabinet. PTI

It appears that differences on names of MLAs to be inducted into the ministry between the camps of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar was among the reasons for swearing in of only eight Ministers on Saturday.

Both leaders were in Delhi till Friday night discussing with party high command the names of Ministers to be inducted into the new Cabinet and the allocation of portfolios. Sources said both suggested their names to make it difficult for the central leadership to iron out a list that provides representation to all regions, religions, and castes.

Apparently, there was clear signs of Mr. Siddaramaiah gaining upper hand in the ministry formation as three of his loyalists - K.J. George, M.B. Patil and Zameer Ahmed Khan - made it to the ministry. The size of the ministry is 34. Except for Union Minister and 7-time MP K.H. Muniyappa, all seven others were part of the Cabinet in the past. While there were speculations that more than two dozen Ministers could be inducted, the high command is said to have cleared the induction of only eight in the first phase. Hard bargaining between Mr. Siddaramaiah and Mr. Shivakumar on inclusion of their loyalists into the ministry was said to be the reason for the induction of eight Ministers.

The next Cabinet expansion is likely to be held after swearing-in ceremony of newly elect MLAs as members of the Legislative Assembly this week.

Spurious liquor: one more dead in Marakkanam

The Hindu Bureau
VILLUPURAM

The toll in the Marakkanam spurious liquor tragedy rose on Saturday with the death of one more person who was undergoing treatment at the Government Villupuram Medical College and Hospital.

The deceased was identified as Kanniappan, 48, of Ekkiyarkuppam. Official sources said 43 persons are still under treatment in Villupuram.

Nine arrested

The police have so far arrested nine persons for their alleged involvement in the Marakkanam tragedy.

At meet to mark 2 years of LDF govt., CM Pinarayi lists its achievements

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

He also accused the UDF, BJP of joining hands to attack the ruling party and its various initiatives

Accusing the United Democratic Front (UDF) and the BJP of joining hands to level baseless allegations and attack the Left Democratic Front (LDF) government to undermine all its initiatives, Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan said the government could weather all these and take the State ahead in all sectors.

Addressing a public meeting marking the completion of two years of the LDF government in the capital on Saturday, Mr. Vijayan, in an apparent response to criticism from UDF leaders at a Secretariat siege earlier in the day, said that the large public support to the government had forced the Opposition to repeat hollow allegations to tarnish the government, with the right-wing media operating in tandem to kick up controversies.

"Today, we heard someone saying that the LDF government is a disaster for the State. In 2021, the people of this State gave a verdict based on their experience. No one can forget what Kerala was like before 2016. The State went behind in the health, education and other sectors. The tragedy of 2016 was that the UDF was in power. The people ended that tragedy. In the past seven years, we have been on a developmental path in all sectors," he said.

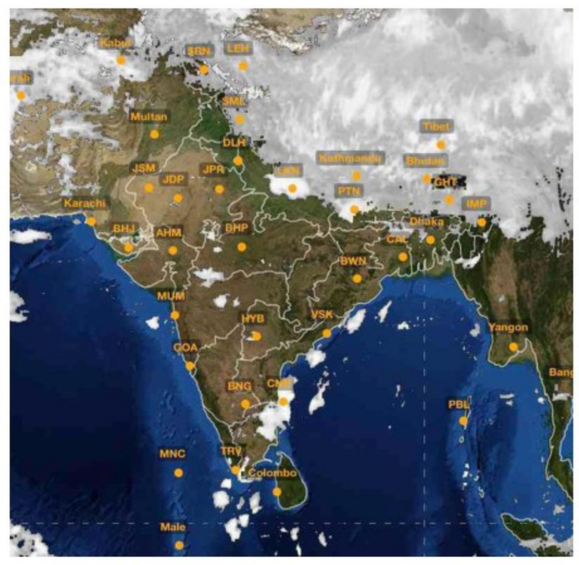
In a veiled reference to the controversies around the artificial intelligence-powered (AI) camera traffic surveillance system, Mr. Vijayan said the contracts are being awarded to the lowest bidder through transparent tender processes, while the UDF government did not even invite a tender.

Listing the achievements, he said these were achieved despite numerous disasters including unprecedented floods, Cyclone Ockhi, and Nipah and COVID-19 outbreaks. When the LDF came to power in 2016, ₹1,473.67 crore in welfare pension payments was pending. The front immediately released the payments, raised the pension amount, and has over seven years distributed ₹18,997 cr. to beneficiaries.

" This financial year, the GDP has increased by 12.01% over last year, while the per capita income is twice the national average. The 12% unemployment rate when we took charge has now come down to 5%. As many as 1.4 lakh MSMEs were launched last year, with a large proportion of the entrepreneurs being women," he said.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 19.00 HRS)

Forecast for Sunday: Heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Karaikal. Thunderstorm with lightning/gusty winds likely at isolated places over Mizoram, Tripura, Odisha, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, coastal Andhra Pradesh, south interior Karnataka, Kerala and Mahe

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	36.7	27.5	Kozhikode	—	36.4	29.0
Ahmedabad	—	42.7	29.0	Kurnool	—	41.7	30.7
Aizawl	26	33.5	16.4	Lucknow	—	40.1	24.4
Allahabad	—	44.8	25.4	Madurai	—	39.4	26.2
Bengaluru	—	34.4	23.4	Mangaluru	—	34.4	27.5
Bhopal	—	—	27.6	Mumbai	—	33.6	26.8
Bhubaneswar	—	39.7	24.8	Mysuru	—	34.0	21.6
Chandigarh	—	40.3	24.8	New Delhi	—	40.4	23.2
Chennai	—	39.1	28.4	Patna	—	41.8	25.6
Coimbatore	2	35.8	24.4	Port Blair	0.5	33.6	26.4
Dehradun	—	36.7	20.0	Puducherry	—	36.2	28.2
Gangtok	7	20.4	13.1	Pune	—	39.6	23.4
Goa	—	35.5	26.5	Raipur	6	40.4	25.6
Guwahati	2	33.8	22.8	Ranchi	—	39.2	24.2
Hubballi	—	39.0	23.0	Shillong	1	25.4	15.2
Hyderabad	—	39.7	27.4	Shimla	—	24.6	14.2
Imphal	6	30.3	18.5	Srinagar	—	27.5	9.7
Jaipur	—	41.8	27.3	Thiruvananthapuram	0.8	34.0	26.7
Kochi	—	32.6	27.2	Tiruchi	—	39.7	27.8
Kohima	1	21.4	14.5	Vijayawada	—	39.2	27.2
Kolkata	0.8	37.5	25.6	Visakhapatnam	11	34.0	25.0

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.32	.72	.25	106	122	
Bengaluru	.26	.11	100	70	85	
Chennai	.3	132	119	74	68	
Delhi	.22	.63	.60	203	276	
Hyderabad	.7	.23	.39	95	122	
Kolkata	.8	.15	.21	46	65	
Lucknow	.13	.22	.39	219	176	
Mumbai	.32	.13	.15	34	169	
Pune	106	141	116	117	97	
Visakhapatnam	.15	.49	.23	68	108	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Chhapra, Bihar recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 326 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Sivasagar, Assam recorded a healthy AQI score of 21

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Today, IT based governance is
going on across the country.
In this age of globalisation,
India leads in IT sector in the entire world.
It is a result of the great vision of
Sh. Rajiv Gandhi that the youth of India are doing
excellent progress in various parts of the world.
ASHOK GEHLOT, CHIEF MINISTER, RAJASTHAN
सत्यमेव जयते
Government of Rajasthan
HEARTFELT TRIBUTES TO FORMER PRIME MINISTER
SH. RAJIV GANDHI JI
ON HIS DEATH ANNIVERSARY,
ALSO RECOGNISED AS "ANTI-TERRORISM DAY"
RAJASTHAN SAMWAD
DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION AND PUBLIC RELATIONS, GOVERNMENT OF RAJASTHAN

From Page One

Kerala curios to take on Chinese souvenirs

The mission has over 5,000 units across the State, of which there are a large number of handicraft units too, which will develop unique souvenirs for the State. The mission has launched a competition among units registered under the souvenir network, requiring them to come up with innovative products under a specified theme within a month.

"In the initial stage, we plan to launch 15 branded souvenirs, one each for the 14 districts and one specifically for Beypore, the constituency that is being developed as a Responsible Tourism destination at present," Mr. Kumar says.

The winning souvenirs will be selected by an expert panel based on factors such as cost, materials (need to be eco-friendly), weight, function and aesthetics. A group of 30 craftspersons will be trained by experts to further train other artisans in the State in the manufacture of these souvenirs, with due credit to the person who provides the original idea.

"The Kerala branding will provide them authenticity and a reliable platform for sales," he adds.

India will do its best to end war, says Modi

"I want to assure you that India – and personally myself – will certainly do everything that is necessary to resolve this crisis," Mr. Modi said in his interaction with Mr. Zelensky. The PM was accompanied by National Security Adviser Ajit Doval and External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, while the Ukrainian President was accompanied by his security and foreign affairs team, including Andriy Yermak, head of the Office of the President.

Taking to social media to share details of the interaction, Mr. Zelensky said he had discussed the peace formula with Mr. Modi, and also raised Ukraine's requirement for mobile hospitals and demining support.

Foreign Secretary Vinay Mohan Kwatra told the media that Mr. Zelensky had invited Mr. Modi to visit Ukraine. He added that the PM had "conveyed India's clear support for dialogue and diplomacy to find a way forward".

Fertilizer crisis

Reflecting that Indian position in his opening remarks at the G-7 meeting, the Prime Minister indirectly raised the commodities crisis that was triggered by the war in Ukraine.

There is an urgent need to remove the "political obstacles" that have emerged in the global fertilizer supply chains, Mr. Modi said, supporting natural farming as an alternative to fertilizers. The crisis in Ukraine has affected fertilizer supplies across the world.

Addressing a working session of the meeting of the G-7 countries, the Prime Minister also raised the need to safeguard the rights of transgender individuals.

He also highlighted India's millets initiative, noting that millets could help in addressing nutrition requirements, climate change, water conservation and food security. "Our priority should be the building of an inclusive food system that will focus on the welfare of the most vulnerable people and marginal farmers," the PM said.

Earlier, Mr. Modi met the Prime Minister of Vietnam Pham Minh Chinh, on the sidelines of the G-7 summit. "They also discussed opportunities in the fields of defence, building resilient supply chains, energy, science and technology, human resource development, culture and people-to-people ties," the Ministry of External Affairs said.

Mr. Modi started his engagements by meeting Japanese PM Fumio Kishida, and unveiling a bronze bust of Mahatma Gandhi near the Motoyasu river in Hiroshima, the first city to have experienced atomic bombing in human history.

The PM also met with French President Emmanuel Macron and South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol.

Centre seeks review of SC verdict on Delhi govt. powers

Petition says the judgment has upset the basic tenets of the constitutional idea of federalism and has equated the NCT of Delhi to a State by granting it legislative and executive authority

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

> The judgment wholly ignores that the nominee of the President, the L-G or the Central government, are also manifestations of democracy
>
> **CENTRE'S REVIEW PLEA IN THE SUPREME COURT**

The Centre has sought a review of a Supreme Court verdict upholding the Delhi government's power to make laws and wield control over civil services in the national capital.

The Centre said the judgment by a Constitution Bench headed by Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud had the effect of declaring Delhi a "full-fledged State" when it is actually a Union Territory.

"Union Territories are not 'States'. They are the territories of the Union falling outside the territories of the States. The judgment has upset the basic tenets of the constitutional idea of federalism. It has equated the National Capital Territory of Delhi to a State by granting it legislative and executive authority akin to a State," the Centre submitted in its 370-page review petition filed in the top court.

The Union government said Delhi has never been elevated to the level of a State. The Centre said the judgment was self-contradictory – terming that Delhi had a *sui generis* or special status while at the same time treating it as a 'State'.

"The Legislative Assembly of NCT of Delhi is not a full-fledged Legislative Assembly and does not elevate Delhi to the status of a State List," the review petition said.

The Centre argued that for a Union Territory, the Parliament is the sole legislative body.

The judgment, though accepting the superior legislative authority of the Parliament over Delhi, had gone on to recognise extensive legislative and executive powers to the Delhi Council of Ministers and the Legislative Assembly.

The review plea said the legislative powers are distributed between Parliament and State Legislatures and not between Parliament and Legislative Assemblies of Union Territories.

The petition further said the five-judge Bench judgment contradicts a 1997 nine-judge Bench decision of the Supreme Court in *New Delhi Municipal Corporation vs State of Punjab*, in which it was "clearly held that notwithstanding the 69th Amendment introducing a Legislative Assembly for Delhi, the NCT of Delhi remains a Union Territory".

The Centre said Article 309 of the Constitution clearly distinguished between the Centre and State services. The civil services in a Union Territory clearly belonged to the Centre. The appointments and transfers are made in the Delhi administration in accordance with the Central recruitment rules approved by the President through Lieutenant-Governor (LG) under Article 309.

"The judgment wholly ignores that the nominee of the President, the L-G or the Central government, are also manifestations of democracy, exhibiting the democratic conscience of the country as a whole when compared to the elected government of Delhi. The Central government is administered by the people of the entire country who have a vital and preponderant interest in the governance of the capital of the entire country," the review petition contended.

Ordinance is an insult to SC, we will challenge it: Kejriwal

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Saturday said that the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government would challenge the Centre's ordinance, related to transfer and posting of officers serving the Delhi government, in the Supreme Court.

Mr. Kejriwal termed the ordinance an "insult" and a "direct challenge to the majesty and power" of the highest court in the country.

Addressing a press conference, Mr. Kejriwal said that the ordinance was "undemocratic" and an "attack on the federal structure" as it takes away power from an elected government to perform its duties effectively. "The entire battle is now Supreme Court vs Centre. It is extremely dangerous. Kejriwal is just a small player in this. This way, the Central government will bring in an ordinance to negate any unfavourable judgement, since they have the majority," the Chief Minister said.

Mr. Kejriwal questioned the timing of the ordinance as it was issued hours after the Supreme Court shut for a six-week summer vacation. "The Central government was fully aware that if it brought in the ordinance before the court vacation and if the Delhi government challenged it, it would not last in the court for even five minutes as it is completely unconstitutional," Mr. Kejriwal said. He added that there were eight days between the time the judgment was delivered and it was overturned by the Centre.

Charting the way forward, Mr. Kejriwal said that the AAP would hold a "grand rally" against the BJP and that he would reach out to Opposition leaders to ensure that the Bill, when introduced in the Rajya Sabha, is not passed. "This ordinance by the BJP-led government is a slap on the face for the residents of Delhi. It is essentially the BJP telling the people that if you elect a government other than that of the BJP, it will do everything in its capacity to stop the work of the people," he said.

CBI quizzes ex-NCB chief for 5 hours in bribery case

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

A day after the Bombay High Court directed the CBI not to take any "coercive action" against him till Monday, former Mumbai chief of the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) Sameer Wankhede was quizzed by the Central agency for around five hours on Saturday.

The Indian Revenue Service (IRS) officer is under investigation for allegedly demanding ₹25 crore for not framing Bollywood actor Shah Rukh Khan's son Aryan Khan in a drugs raid on a cruise vessel.

"*Satyamev Jayate* (truth alone triumphs)," he said while entering the CBI office in Bandra-Kurla Complex around 10.15 a.m. He did not speak to media persons when leaving the office at 4.30 p.m.

The CBI booked Mr. Wankhede and four others on May 11 for alleged criminal conspiracy and threat of extortion, apart from provisions pertaining to bribery.

G-20 meet will boost J&K tourism, investment inflow: L-G Manoj Sinha

The Hindu Bureau
SRINAGAR

The upcoming G-20 working group meeting in Srinagar will put Kashmir's famed hospitality on display and give a big boost to tourism in the Union Territory (UT), Jammu and Kashmir's Lieutenant-Governor Manoj Sinha said on Saturday.

The city has been given a major makeover for the event, which begins on Monday. The Jhelum-Rajbagh riverfront, which has been given a facelift, was dedicated to the public by Mr. Sinha on Saturday; it is also the route for the G-20 delegates.

"The J&K administration has finalised all arrangements. The event will send a message across the globe about Kashmir's beauty and hospitality. The successful conduct of the G-20 meeting will boost the tourism and investment flow in the Union Territory. The world will also witness the culture and warm hospitality of Jammu and Kashmir," the L-G elaborated.

Heightened vigilance: A paramilitary soldier stands guard near a temporary checkpoint ahead of the G-20 tourism working group meeting in Srinagar. AP

He thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi for choosing J&K for the event.

Promoting awareness

J&K Chief Secretary Arun Kumar Mehta launched an open quiz and photo competition about the event on the official website. "These initiatives are a way of celebrating the prestigious international event happening under the presidency of our country. All residents of the U.T., especially the students, will participate in these contests to gain knowledge about this big forum and the local customs, traditions and locales," he said.

The quiz questions will also cover the culture, tradition, tourism and IT initiatives in Jammu and Kashmir.

"It is aimed at promoting G-20 awareness and its understanding among the citizens. It can also foster critical thinking skills amongst students by asking challenging questions that require them to think deeply about important summits, thereby broadening their horizons, igniting their passion for global affairs, and providing valuable experiences," Mr. Mehta said.

Security has been tightened across J&K in the run-up to the event. Quick response teams of Central Reserve Police Force commandos conducted security drills on the Dal Lake, where the main event venue is located.

ED searches 12 places in case against 'imposter'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has searched 12 locations in Gujarat in connection with the money-laundering probe against Kiranbhai Jagdishbhai Patel who allegedly impersonated a senior government official serving in the Prime Minister's Office.

On Saturday, the ED said the probe is against Mr. Patel and his associates, Jay Savjibhai Sitapara, Hardik Kishorebhai Chandrana, Vitthalbhai Motibhai Patel, Amit Pandya and Piyush Kantibhai Vasita. The searches were carried out by the ED's Srinagar unit (Jammu and Kashmir) in Ahmedabad, Gandhinagar, Morbi and Mehsana.

The main accused had posed himself as Dr. Kiran Patel, Additional Director with the PMO (strategies & campaigns), and cheated several people for monetary and material benefits. The ED investigation is based on a FIR registered against him at the Nishat police station in Srinagar.

BSF intercepts 3 Pakistani drones, seize 2.6 kg of drugs

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Border Security Force (BSF) on Friday intercepted three Pakistani drones, two of which were seized from different locations along the International Border in Punjab.

The first drone was spotted around 8.30 p.m. near a Dhariwal border outpost. BSF troops seized the drone from an open field. About half an hour later, a second drone near the Pulmoran outpost fell down on the Pakistani side. A Quadcopter DJI Matrics, with 2.6 kg of suspected heroin, was spotted around 10 p.m. in a field in Rattan Khurd border outpost area.

NIA searches multiple locations in 9 J&K districts in terror-funding case

The Hindu Bureau
SRINAGAR

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Saturday searched multiple locations in nine districts of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) in a terror-funding case.

The NIA said extensive searches were conducted in Srinagar, Budgam, Pulwama, Shopian, Awantipora, Anantnag, Handwara, Kupwara and Poonch districts, relating to members of the banned Jamaat-e-Islami (JeI) and overground workers involved in conspiracies hatched by proscribed terrorist organisations and their affiliates.

A large number of incriminating documents and digital devices with incriminating contents were seized during the searches and would be scrutinised to track further links of the suspects.

Anti-terror effort: A security guard stands guard as the NIA conducts searches at a location in Anantnag. PTI

The case pertained to terror funding and the collection of funds by the now-banned JeI (J&K), "ostensibly for charitable purposes but has been using them instead for promotion of terror activities by proscribed terrorist organisations, such as Hizb-ul-Mujahideen (HM) and Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT)."

The NIA said it had earlier chargesheeted four persons in the case, involving well-organised cadres of the terrorist outfits operating in J&K.

"The banned organisations and their affiliates have been engaged in conspiring to commit acts of terror and violence by radicalising local youth and mobilising overground workers with the aim of disrupting the peace and communal harmony of J&K," the NIA said, adding that it was moving swiftly to take action against some of the recently launched affiliates of the banned terrorist organisations.

Among the affiliates under its scrutiny are The Resistance Front (TRF), the United Liberation Front Jammu & Kashmir (ULFJ&K), the Mujahideen Gazwat-ul-Hind (MGH), the Jammu & Kashmir Freedom Fighters (JKFF), the Kashmir Tigers, and the People's Anti-Fascist Front (PAFF), the agency added.

Sikh body extends support to protesting wrestlers

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC) on Saturday announced its support to the wrestlers protesting , at Jantar Mantar here against alleged molestation by Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) president Brij Bhushan.

Describing the matter as one related to the honour and dignity of girls, the Sikh body said that the government should view the issue seriously and take strict action against the accused person, who is also a leader of the BJP.

Harjinder Singh Dhami, president, SGPC, said that the government on the one hand talked about '*Beti Padhao*' and women's uplift, while on the other hand, girls who brought Olympic medals for the country were struggling to secure justice.

In solidarity: Farmers take part in wrestlers' protest at Jantar Mantar in New Delhi on Saturday. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

"The Sikh community supports these protesting sportswomen. We will soon send a delegation to meet the protesters in Delhi," Mr. Dhami said, while speaking to presspersons after the SGPC's executive meet in Amritsar.

At the executive meet, the SGPC also decided to take strict action against sources of "anti-Sikh narratives" spreading "hate" on social media. SGPC members alleged that fake accounts had been created in their names and misinformation was being spread but the police were "not doing anything".

Quad leaders express deep concern over consequences of Ukraine war

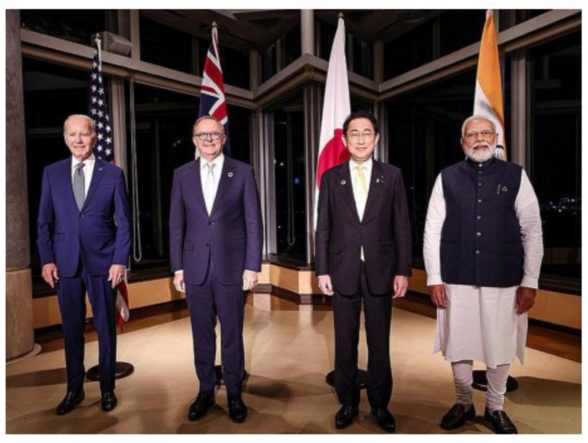
At special meet held in Hiroshima, India, Japan, the U.S. and Australia recognises serious impact on global economic system; joint statement also opposes unilateral actions that threaten to disturb the peace in the Indo-Pacific region

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

Expressing "deep concern" over the continuing war in Ukraine, leaders of the Quad countries said that they "mourn" its consequences, and will continue to provide humanitarian assistance to Ukraine.

In a statement issued after a shortened version of the Quad summit of India, Japan, the U.S. and Australia held in Hiroshima on Saturday, the leaders of the four countries also recommitted themselves to maintaining and strengthening stability in the Indo-Pacific region according to international law.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida and U.S. President Joseph Biden participated in the meeting convened by Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese. They issued a joint vision statement, and three other statements setting out "Quad Principles" on clean energy supply chains, cybersecurity and secure software, and critical and emerging technology standards. The meeting hosted by Australia was held in Japan as the U.S. President decided earlier this week that he would cut short his visit to the region due to the U.S. Congressional logjam over debt default. Mr. Modi announced that the next Quad leaders' meeting would be held in India in 2024.



Narendra Modi with U.S. President Joe Biden, Australian PM Anthony Albanese and Japanese PM Fumio Kishida. PTI

"We express our deep concern over the war raging in Ukraine and mourn its terrible and tragic humanitarian consequences," said the Quad joint statement, "We recognise its serious impacts on the global economic system including on food, fuel and energy security and critical supply chains." The leaders added that they remained committed to "dialogue and diplomacy" to resolve the conflict.

However, the Quad countries did not directly refer to Russia's actions, understood to be in deference to India's divergent stand on the issue, or to the G-7's statement on Friday that proposed a new set of sanctions and measures to restrict Russia's economic activities.

When asked at a briefing on the day's meetings whether India's increased purchases of Russian oil had come up in any of the conversations, Foreign Secretary Vinay Kwatra said, "No".

Just as in previous meetings, the Quad statement did not refer directly to China, but made pointed references to upholding peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific "maritime domain". "We strongly oppose destabilising or unilateral actions that seek to change the status quo by force or coercion.... We express serious concern at the militarisation of disputed features, the dangerous use of Coastguard and maritime militia vessels, and efforts to disrupt other countries' offshore resource exploitation activities," the statement said, indicating Chinese PLA-Navy's actions in the South China Sea and East China sea.

When asked, Mr. Kwatra did not confirm or deny whether China's aggressive actions at the Line of Actual Control (LAC) and the military stand-off since April 2020 were discussed, but said the Quad leaders spoke of "mitigating" regional "challenges" .

India stands for respecting sovereignty, adherence to international law, says Modi

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

India advocated for dialogue and diplomacy to resolve Russia-Ukraine conflict, he says

Amid China's military expansion in the South China Sea and the East China Sea, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on May 20 said India was committed to protecting its sovereignty and integrity while promoting peaceful resolution of maritime disputes based on international law.

In an interview with the Japanese newspaper *Yomiuri Shimbun*, Mr. Modi, in Hiroshima to attend the G-7 summit, said the G-7 and G-20 summits were crucial platforms for global cooperation.

"As the G-20 chair, I will represent the perspectives and priorities of the Global South at the G-7 summit in Hiroshima. Strengthening collaboration between the G-7 and G-20 is vital in addressing global challenges such as climate change, supply chain disruptions, economic recovery, energy instability, healthcare and food security apart from peace and security," he said.

The Special Strategic and Global Partnership between India and Japan provided a strong foundation for the joint efforts of the two countries, contributing to global cooperation on these issues, he said.

Dialogue, diplomacy

Asked about his view on Russia's invasion of Ukraine, and how India responded to negative reactions regarding its abstention from voting on UN resolutions and increased oil imports from Russia, Mr. Modi said India advocated for dialogue and diplomacy to resolve disputes and prioritise the well-being of people affected by rising costs of essentials.

"India abstained from the UN General Assembly resolutions to condemn the invasion but remains committed to upholding the UN Charter, international law, sovereignty, and territorial integrity. India supports a peaceful resolution to the Ukraine crisis and is ready to contribute constructively within the UN and beyond," he said.

Asked how India would address China's military expansion in the South China Sea and the East China Sea, as well as the rising tensions in the Taiwan Strait to maintain international law and territorial integrity, Mr. Modi said, "India stands for respecting sovereignty, peaceful resolution of disputes and adherence to international law." He said India had resolved land and maritime boundaries with Bangladesh, showcasing its approach.

Withdrawal of ₹2,000 notes is 'whimsical', says Mamata

Shiv Sahay Singh
KOLKATA

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Saturday described the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) decision to pull out ₹2,000 notes from active circulation as "whimsical & Tughlaqi demonetisation drama" .

"Another whimsical & Tughlaqi demonetisation drama of ₹2,000 notes will hit the common people hard once again by subjecting them to massive harassment." Ms. Banerjee tweeted . She added that "these imperious measures are meant to camouflage the fundamentally anti-people & crony capitalist nature of this regime".

Abhishek appears before CBI in Bengal school job scam

The Hindu Bureau
KOLKATA

Trinamool Congress general secretary Abhishek Banerjee on Saturday appeared before the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) here in connection with the West Bengal school job scam. He was questioned for over nearly nine hours at the CBI office in Nizam Palace for over nine hours.

The agency has issued summons to the Diamond Harbour MP on Friday after the Calcutta High Court dismissed his petition seeking recall of a previous order of the same court which said that investigative agencies such as the CBI and ED could interrogate him in the teacher recruitment scam.

Abhishek Banerjee

Before his appearance before the agency, Mr. Banerjee wrote to the CBI citing that he has preferred a Special Leave Petition before the Supreme Court challenging the order of Justice Amrita Sinha of the Calcutta High Court and the same shall be mentioned before the Supreme Court for urgent hearing on Monday or when the court permits.

The Trinamool's second-in-command had to suspend the party's outreach initiative in Bankura to appear before the agency on Saturday. Mr. Banerjee on Friday had dared the CBI to arrest him. He has said that for the past three years, the Central agencies were trying to frame him first in coal (pilferage scam), then in cattle (smuggling) and now SSC (school service commission) recruitment scam.

While summons to Mr. Banerjee was issued in the past by the CBI and the ED in the coal pilferage scam, the name of the Trinamool leader in the recruitment scam came up last month, when an accused, Kuntal Ghosh, wrote to the court alleging that he was threatened by the agencies to name Mr. Banerjee.

Cultural stars in bilateral firmament have one-on-one with PM in Japan

Press Trust of India
HIROSHIMA

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday met some of the leading Japanese personalities who were instrumental in promoting Indian culture in Japan, saying such interactions facilitate the deepening of mutual understanding and creating stronger bonds between the two countries.

Mr. Modi is in Hiroshima to attend three sessions at the G-7 summit following an invitation by his Japanese counterpart, Fumio Kishida.

Mr. Modi met Tomio Mizokami, Professor Emeritus at the Graduate School of Foreign Studies of Osaka University, an author and linguist proficient in Hindi and Punjabi languages.

Precious gift: Japanese painter Hiroko Takayama presenting a painting to Narendra Modi in Hiroshima on Saturday. PTI

Mr. Mizokami was conferred the Padma Shri in 2018 for his contribution to the promotion of Indian literature and culture in Japan.

He presented the widely acclaimed book *Jwalamukhi* – an anthology of writings from the 1980s by a cohort of Japanese scholars who laid the foundation of Hindi learning in Japan, according to the press release issued by the Ministry of External Affairs.

Mr. Modi also met and interacted with Hiroko Takayama, who was born in Hiroshima and is a Western-style painter, whose works are deeply influenced by her deep association with India, spanning over two decades.

Ms. Takayama has conducted several workshops and held exhibitions in India, and was briefly a Visiting Professor at Visva-Bharati University, Santiniketan, the press release said. She presented the Prime Minister with one of her prominent works – an oil painting of the Buddha, created in 2022.

Mr. Modi said such interactions facilitate the deepening of mutual understanding, respect and creating stronger bonds between our countries.

United Opposition a distant dream in U.P. as Akhilesh skips Karnataka swearing-in

The Hindu Bureau
LUCKNOW

After showing initial enthusiasm over the Congress's victory in Karnataka, Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav's decision to skip the swearing-in of the new Congress government on Saturday made it clear that a joint Opposition front against the BJP in Uttar Pradesh is a distant dream. Mr. Yadav decided to tour eastern Uttar Pradesh on Saturday and was also scheduled to meet the family members of the late Hari Shankar Tiwari, former Minister, in Gorakhpur. The SP chief had to cancel this planned visit due to a death in his family.

"Our leader congratulated the Congress for the victory, but he had a pre-decided schedule before the date of the swearing-in was announced," SP spokesperson Sunil Singh Yadav Sajan, a close aide of Mr. Yadav, told *The Hindu*.

He added that it was not necessary to stand behind the Congress. "We have maintained that the party which is strong in a particular State should be kept on the forefront while contesting the polls there against the BJP, and in U.P., the SP is the only party which can defeat the saffron party, so others should stand behind us," said Mr. Sajan. In fact, no representative from the SP attended the swearing-in.

Since the Karnataka results were announced, Mr. Yadav has toned down his attacks on the Congress. He described the verdict as "the beginning of the end" for the BJP.

SMART CITY THIRUVANANTHAPURAM LIMITED
CIN U75302KL2017SGC05027
E-TENDER NOTICE

E-Tenders are invited for the following projects of Smart City Thiruvananthapuram Limited Project Area 1) Request for proposal RFP for Selection of Contractor for Development of Smart Roads and Underground Ducting Including Utility Shifting of Water Supply and Power lines in ABD area Under Smart (Corporation Roads) in Thiruvananthapuram.

SL. NO.	NAME OF PROJECT	E-TENDER ID	PAC AMOUNT (Exclusive of GST)	Bid Submission Last Date
	Selection of Contractor for Development of Smart Roads and Underground Ducting Including Utility Shifting of Water Supply and Power lines in ABD area Under Smart (Corporation Roads) in Thiruvananthapuram.			
1.	Road ID 41 (Kothuval to Sabhapathi Kovil Street)	2023_SCTLT_558303_2	Rs. 2,39,97,177	27/05/2023

Date and Time of Opening Price Bid: To Be Intimated Separately to Technically Qualified Bidders by e-mail. All the RFP documents and details are available on the e-Procurement Website. Bids are only accepted online on the Website https://etenders.kerala.gov.in

(Sd/-) Chief Executive Officer, SMART CITY THIRUVANANTHAPURAM Ltd.

कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियंता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, संभाग द्वितीय जोधपुर (मुख्यालय बाड़मेर)

क्रमांकः 279 दिनांकः 11.05.2023

संशोधन संख्या-3 (अल्पकालीन निविदा सूचना संख्याः 18/2022-2023)

इस कार्यालय द्वारा जारी अल्पकालीन निविदा सूचना संख्या 18/2022-23 में अंकित प्रधानमंत्री ग्राम सड़क योजनान्तर्गत स्वीकृत सड़कों के चौड़ाईकरण एवं सुदृढ़ीकरण के कार्य की निविदा ऑनलाईन प्रस्तुत किये जाने की दिनांक 24.05.2023 को दोपहर 12.00 बजे तक बढ़ाई जाती है। उक्त निविदाएं अब दिनांक 24.05.2023 को दोपहर 3.00 बजे खोली जायेगी। निविदा की अन्य शर्तें यथावत रहेगी।

NIB No. PWD2223A5035
UBN As under 1 PWD2223WLOB20446

(विजय कुमार वर्मा) अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियंता,
DIPR/C/7127/2023 सा.नि.वि. संभाग द्वितीय, जोधपुर (मुख्यालय-बाड़मेर)

JOINT ADMISSION COUNSELING DELHI 2023

Admission Notice for B.Tech. & B.Arch. Programmes 2023-2024

ONLINE applications are invited for admission to B. Tech. & B.Arch. Programmes offered by the following Universities / Institutes established by Government of NCT of Delhi:

- Netaji Subhas University of Technology (NSUT), www.nsut.ac.in
- Delhi Technological University (DTU), www.dtu.ac.in
- Indira Gandhi Delhi Technical University for Women (IGDTUW), www.igdtuw.ac.in
- Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology Delhi (IIIT-D), www.iiitd.ac.in
- Delhi Skill and Entrepreneurship University (DSEU), www.dseu.ac.in

For detailed informations regarding Eligibility Criteria, Reservation, Admission Procedure, Counseling Schedules, Application Process etc., please visit website: www.jacdelhi.admissions.nic.in

ONLINE Application Process

- Candidates MUST register ONLINE at www.jacdelhi.admissions.nic.in as per the instructions prescribed in the admission brochure available at **www.jacdelhi.admissions.nic.in**
- All candidates are required to pay a Non-refundable Registration Fee of Rs. 1500/-in ONLINE mode ONLY using Credit Card / Debit Card / Net-banking / Any other online mode available on JAC portal.

Important Dates

1.	Online Registration and Choice Filling has commenced since	May 25, 2023 (Thursday) From 10:00 AM (Tentative)
2.	Last Date and time for online registration (Registration Form Filling, Registration Fee Payment and Choice filling)	June 25, 2023 (Sunday) till 11:59 PM (Tentative)

For any further updates / notifications related to admission, candidates are advised to regularly visit **www.jacdelhi.admissions.nic.in**

HELP DESK: helpdesk.jacdelhi2023@nsut.ac.in

NOTE:- APPLICATION RECEIVED WITHOUT PRESCRIBED FEE SHALL NOT BE CONSIDERED / SUMMARILY REJECTED

Chairman, JAC Delhi 2023

NMDC Ltd.
(A Govt. Of India Enterprise) (ISO 9001 Company)
Bailadila Iron Ore Mines, Bacheli Complex, Bacheli Distt. - South Bastar (Dantewada), CG-494553.
Phone No.: 07857-230210, Mob.: 9573936005

//e-Tender Notice //

BIOM/BC/Contracts/Publication/2023-24/071/ **Date: 21.05.2023**

Bailadila Iron Ore Mines, Bacheli Complex, NMDC Ltd. invites e-bids for the following works. Intending tenderers may visit and download Tender Documents from CPP Portal or **www.nmdc.co.in** or **http://www.mstcecommerce.com/eprochome/nmdc/**. Any corrigendum/addedum to be issued, the bidder must visit the online portal from time to time to notice the same. Corrigendum/addedum will not be published in any newspaper. The offer has to be submitted online at the given MSTC portal only till 03:30 PM and will be opended on 04:00 PM on respective last dates.

	MSTC Ref. No. NMDC/ Bacheli/ 23-24/ET/	NMDC Tender. No. BIOM/BC/ CONTRACTS/ OTE(71)/23-24/	Short Description of Work	EMD (Rs.)	Last Date of Sub 'n
1	38/102	L-006	Reapir/Maintenance of Railway sick wagons at Loading plant Dep-05,10/11A Bacheli.	25,700/-	22.06.2023
2	39/103	P-025	Repair of Conveyor Belts with Rotocure Rubber in OCSL Plant at Bacheli Complex.	66,600/-	22.06.2023
3	40/104	Ser-008	Overhauling of 02 nos. XL-1400 CFM Screw Air Compressors.	30,300/-	23.06.2023
4	41/105	E-014	Electrification of Automated Sampling System & Robotic Laboratory at Bacheli Complex	26,750/-	23.06.2023
5	42/106	LP-022	Lifting, Stack measurement, Transporting & stacking of contaminated material from all the railway track lines to stacking yards/FOD from Dep-5,10-11A siding at Loading Plant.	39,900/-	24.06.2023
6	43/107	LP-023	Hiring of 1 no. Poclain EX-210/220 for parallel loading of Conv. 106 reclaiming hopper to facilitate and enhance the rake dispatch at Loading Plant.	39,500/-	24.06.2023
7	44/108	LP-024	Hiring of 01 no. of Poclain EX-110 with 02 nos. of Tippers/01 no. of Ex-110 Poclain only to enhance the rake loading of Dep.-10/11A fine & lump for parallel loading at Conveyor 1066 at Loading Plant.	38,000/-	25.06.2023
8	45/109	G-024	Mechanized excavation, loading, transportation and unloading of 1.0 lakh tons of iron ore fines from fine ore dump (FOD) to Dep- 10/11A fine ore stockpile LP through weigh bridge at an average lead distance of 3.5 kms one way approx. as and when required.	30,700/-	25.06.2023
9	46/110	G-026	Mechanized Excavation, Loading, Transportation and Unloading of 3.00 (Three) lakh tons of iron ore fines from fine ore dump (FOD) to conv. 305 hopper at FOD area in average lead distance of 0.50 km (one way approx.) as and when required.	41,300/-	26.06.2023

HOD (M&S and Contracts) BIOM, Bacheli Complex

TAMIL NADU WATER SUPPLY AND DRAINAGE BOARD
INVITATION OF BIDS–TWO COVER–ITEMWAR TENDER SYSTEM - Short Term (E-Submission)

IFB No.	No.10 to 14 /F.O & M of CWSS /SDO I/ CW /2023-2026 /Dt : 18.05.2023
Eligibility	Registered Class I Bidders (Civil)
Tender Invitee	The Chief Engineer, TWAD Board, No.1/1, Sambakulam, Madurai - 625 007
Downloading Period	**23.05.2023** to **07.06.2023** upto **15.00** hours
EMD Payable	Online Mode through E-Tendering website **www.tntenders.gov.in**
Pre Bid meeting	**29.05.2023** at **11.00** hours at the office of the Tender Invitee
Bid Submission	**07.06.2023** before **15.00** hours duly Digitally signed encrypted Tenders through E-Tendering website **www.tntenders.gov.in**
Bid opening	**08.06.2023** at **15.30** hours through E-Tender Portal

IFB No	Name of work	Approximate value (Rs.in crore) (incl. GST)	Bid Security (Rs. in lakhs)
	Operation and maintenance of the following CWSS including repair, rectification works and supply of chemicals for the period from 01.07.2023 to 31.03.2026		
10	7 nos. of CWSS in Madurai District	Rs.18.50 crore	Rs.14.00 lakhs
11	27 nos. of CWSS in Theni District	Rs.16.00 crore	Rs.12.00 lakhs
12	28 nos. of CWSS in Dindigul District	Rs.32.00 crore	Rs.24.00 lakhs
13	Melur CWSS in Madurai District	Rs.57.00 crore	Rs.43.00 lakhs
14	2 nos. of Mega CWSS in Dindigul District	Rs.25.50 crore	Rs.19.50 lakhs

DIPR/ 2661 /TENDER/2023 SAVE WATER, CONSERVE WATER, EVERY DROP COUNTS

"சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம், சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்"

Chief Engineer, TWAD Board, Madurai

Rajasthan Medical Education Society
(Directorate of Medical Education)
Chikitsa Siksha Bhavan
Near Pink Square Mall, Opp. psychiatric Centre, Janta Colony, Jaipur-302004

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No. F.27(20)Rajmes/Central Proc./Super Speciality/2022/3018 Dated 10/05/2023

(NIB for Publication on State Public Procurement Portal)
(NIB No.02-18/2023-24)

Sealed Single Stage Two - envelopes and unconditional online Bids for **Two Years for supply and Installation of Super Speciality Equipment / Items of Raj-MES Medical Colleges** are invited from interested bidder's upto 12/06/2023 at 06.00 PM. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.raj.nic.in) of the state and Rajasthan Medical Education Society, Jaipur. Department website.

UBN :- MES2324GLRC00012 to MES2324GLRC00028

Director Raj-MES

DIPR/C/6940

INBRIEF

IAF grounds MiG-21 fleet for checks following May 8 crash

The Indian Air Force (IAF) has grounded its MiG-21 fighter fleet following the crash on May 8 in Rajasthan that killed three civilians on the ground, for checks as per standard procedure, officials said. "As per the standard procedure, one-time checks are going on for which the fleet was grounded after the crash. Aircraft are back in the air as the checks progress," an Air Force official confirmed on Saturday. The checks of the entire fleet should be completed very soon, the official added. The IAF currently has 31 fighter squadrons and operates three MiG-21 Bison squadrons which are scheduled to be phased out by 2025, one every year.

Three more cheetahs at M.P.'s Kuno released into the wild

Three more cheetahs – two males named Agni and Vayu and one female, Gamini – were released into the wild at the Kuno National Park (KNP) in Madhya Pradesh on Friday, an official said. With this, six cheetahs have been released into the wild at the KNP so far. Now, 11 translocated felines and four cubs are left in the enclosures, said J.S. Chouhan, Principal Chief Conservator of Forest (Wildlife). Three Namibian female cheetahs, who were among the eight felines brought to the KNP last year, and one male are still kept in enclosures. "One of the female Namibian cheetahs is to be released in the free-range in the next couple of days," he said. PTI

NIA arrests associate of jailed gangster Lawrence Bishnoi

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has arrested an associate of jailed gangster Lawrence Bishnoi in connection with the ongoing probe into a terrorist-gangster-drug smuggler network. The accused has been identified as Yudhvir Singh, a resident of Fatehabad in Haryana. The agency alleged that he had been evading arrest for the past several days. According to the NIA, Yudhvir allegedly smuggled weapons from across the border in Pakistan for use by gangsters and criminals. On the directions of Lawrence Bishnoi and the other syndicate members, he also used to harbour associates of criminal gang members and accused persons tasked with committing various crimes, including murder and extortion.

Cashless treatment facilities at AIIMS for CGHS beneficiaries

Cashless treatment facilities will now be available to all Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) beneficiaries (serving and pensioners) in six All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) located in Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, Patna, Jodhpur, Raipur and Rishikesh. This decision was taken on Saturday, as Memorandum of Agreement were signed between these six AIIMS and CGHS, Union Health Ministry. The CGHS beneficiaries will now have the advantage of accessing state-of-the-art treatment facilities available in these AIIMS, without the hassle of first making payments and then seeking reimbursements from CGHS.

SUDOKU

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No.SS5805 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

2	4	8	3	7	1	9	5	6
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3	9	5	4	6	8	1	7	2
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5	1	4	8	9	2	6	3	7
7	3	2	6	1	5	4	9	8
4	5	3	1	8	6	7	2	9
8	6	9	2	3	7	5	4	1
1	2	7	9	5	4	8	6	3

Nurse shortage ails U.P. health system

The State has just 1.38 lakh nurses and midwives for its population of over 23 crore; though it was allocated ₹270 crore in Union Budget for building 27 nursing colleges, the State faces the challenges of paucity of faculty for training and the quality of students who graduate from such institutions

Maitri Porecha
NEW DELHI

With just around 1.38 lakh nurses and midwives for its population of more than 23 crore, the health system in Uttar Pradesh is struggling to take care of the ailing. While the World Health Organization norm is three nurses per 1,000 population, in Uttar Pradesh, it is just 0.6.

Though the State was allocated ₹270 crore in the Union Budget to start 27 new nursing colleges, there are two major challenges: the paucity of faculty for training and the quality of students who graduate from such institutions.

There are currently 23 government-run nursing colleges, 17 of which began admitting students only in 2021. As the B.Sc. nursing degree is a four-year course, the six nursing colleges produce 420 graduates a year. This will be enhanced to 620 from 2025.

The State needs to ensure that quality nursing students get admission in both private and public colleges. "Now, 420 graduates are just 5% of the lot; 95% (nearly 7,860 seats for B.Sc. nursing) are passing out of the private sector, which is largely unregulated," Uttar Pradesh Principal Secretary (Medical Education) Alok Kumar told *The Hindu*, adding that there are 329 nursing colleges in total.

To begin with, the State wants to gradually create 72,000 nursing positions in the government sector. The State also launched Mission Niramaya in 2022 to raise the quality of the nursing workforce.

"The aim is to create infrastructure for nursing colleges co-located on the medical college campus, get more students from Class 12 to enrol in nursing, and admit quality students by administering a NEET-like Common Entrance Test (CET) so that a certain standard is maintained at the input level," he said, adding that he envisions bringing up the percentage of nursing graduates from government institutions to 20% over the next few years.

Meeting the demand: There are currently 23 government-run nursing colleges in the State. GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

Currently, Uttar Pradesh is playing a catch-up game with States such as Kerala, which has a strength of nine nurses per 1,000 population, and Tamil Nadu, which has six per 1,000. "The shortage of trained faculty is being plugged by sourcing teachers from these southern States," Mr. Kumar said. To incentivise nurses to come in as teachers, the State is offering better pay packages than that in western and southern India.

Identifying the problem

In 2021, when Mr. Kumar was overlooking the recruitment of 4,500 nurses (both for new and existing positions) in State-run health facilities at all levels – medical colleges, district hospitals, and block-level and primary healthcare facilities – he realised that the supply of trained qualified nurses did not match the demand.

The Uttar Pradesh Public Service Commission (UPPSC) told Mr. Kumar that they could supply only 3,012 nurses. "When I asked why the number of nurses was low, the UPPSC came back with a reply that not all nurses meet requisite knowledge benchmarks to qualify working for the State government," he said.

On probing, Mr. Kumar realised that the phenomenon of "non-attending nurses", those who never went to college but got their degree, was rampant in private colleges. He added that sometimes private colleges would feel pressured to pass students simply because they had paid the fee. These nurses would register with the nursing council and be "qualified" for practising in health set-ups. "The council had no way of testing for quality," Mr. Kumar said.

Cleaning up the system

To control the quality of nursing students right at the input level, the State introduced the Common Nursing Entrance Test (CNET), mandatory for admissions to all colleges affiliated to Atal Bihari Vajpayee Medical University (ABVMU).

In a separate exercise, the State government is now monitoring exams of colleges offering nursing diplomas, with CCTV supervision. When they began in 2022, the pass percentage of candidates dropped from 90% to 60%.

S. Balamani Bose, Principal, College of Nursing, Meerut, said that nursing is not considered aspirational as there is no awareness among the students of its scope and salary. Also, nurses who go on to join jobs in private hospitals and nursing homes get paid less than those in the government sector.

This year, the State government is aiming to create 3,500 additional positions, but they want to do it gradually to ensure efficient cadre management. "We are filling up positions at an increasing rate of 20% per year," Mr. Kumar explained.

'Kerala drug haul surpasses seizures in UPA decade'

Press Trust of India
DWARKA

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday said the value of the recent drug seizure off the Kerala coast was more than the cumulative value of narcotics seized during the 10-year rule of the Congress-led UPA government at the Centre, before the BJP came to power in 2014. In a jibe at the Congress, he said the lapses in coastal security had led to the 26/11 Mumbai terror attack.

"The Indian Navy and Coast Guard seized drugs worth ₹12,000 crore off the Kerala coast recently. This is more than what was seized in an entire year in the past. During 10 years of UPA, narcotics worth ₹680 crore were seized... It proves that the security scenario has improved," the Home Minister said, while laying the foundation stone for the permanent campus of the National Academy of Coastal Policing at Okha in Gujarat.

Amid India's OTT boom, platforms still keep the disabled in the dark

Aroon Deep
NEW DELHI

Despite the boom in Over-the-Top (OTT) streaming services in India, there is a huge gap in the accessibility of content for visually and hearing challenged viewers. However, regulations for streaming in India explicitly recommend that streaming services make an effort to have their content accessible.

One aspect of the IT Rules, 2021 that has not received much attention (or compliance) is their pitch for accessibility for persons with disabilities.

The final provision of the Code of Ethics that OTT platforms have to adhere to, is a nudge to "take reasonable efforts to improve the accessibility of online curated content transmitted by it to persons with disabilities through the implementation of appropriate access services". These are a likely reference to two key technologies: closed captioning and audio description. Closed captioning, unlike regular subtitling, describes the sounds and background music score in a film or TV show, for people with difficulty hearing. Audio description tracks describe what is happening on screen for visually challenged audiences.

Catering to all: Platforms such as Netflix, Amazon Prime Video and Apple TV+ fare better on content accessibility. REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE

While the IT Rules Code of Ethics pushes for these technologies to be more widely adopted, streaming services – specifically those run by Indian firms – have largely not done so. The most glaring example is the lack of closed captioning on the Indian Premier League on JioCinema.

Better accessibility

International platforms such as Netflix, Amazon Prime Video and Apple TV+, however, fare better. Following an agreement with the American Council of the Blind (ACB) in 2016, Netflix started adding an audio description track for all its original content globally, including in India. However, this is not the case for licensed content, even on platforms which otherwise have a good track record on accessibility.

A vast majority of theatrically released films in India that are not produced or financed by a streaming platform do not have an audio description feed.

The situation is similar for closed captioning in the same language as there is no same-language audio description and closed captioning for the majority of licensed content on Indian streaming platforms.

"In the digital product world, there is a reluctance to pay much attention to accessibility, as it needs an extra expense," said Padmini Ray Murray, the founder and director of Design Beku, a Karnataka-based collective that focuses on working with communities on technology access issues. The IT Rules' Code of Ethics says that OTT players should "to the extent feasible," provide for accessibility. "There is no way of enforcing [this provision], because there is no legal implication," Dr. Murray said.

Himachal team studies legal growing of cannabis

The Hindu Bureau
CHANDIGARH

As the Himachal Pradesh government contemplates legalising the growing of cannabis in the State, a team of legislators on Saturday visited Uttarakhand to explore the possibility of legal cultivation of the flowering plant.

Himachal Pradesh Revenue and Tribal Development Minister Jagat Singh Negi, who heads the committee of MLAs constituted to study the possibilities of cannabis cultivation, said a report would be submitted to the State government within two months. "We are studying all aspects to start cultivation of cannabis for industrial and non-narcotic use. We are visiting areas where its legal cultivation takes place to understand the pros and cons," he said. Kewal Singh Pathania, a member of the committee, said cannabis cultivation could play a significant role in generating revenue for the hill State.

U.K. coronation kept zardozi artisans near the Taj on their toes as memorabilia mania reached a peak

Sreeparna Chakrabarty
AGRA

More than a month ahead of the coronation of King Charles III, artisans in a quiet neighbourhood near the Taj Mahal in Agra had their hands full. They were quickly churning out two lakh car hangers designed like the crown to be worn by the King at his coronation.

Made with the intricate zardozi embroidery technique that uses thin metal threads on silk, satin or velvet, the car hangers needed to reach the U.K. within a month, as memorabilia.

Returns from the labour-intensive cottage industry, which has been alive since the 12th century, have been diminishing. With the artisans' livelihood under threat, the Agra Smart City Mission undertook an exercise from 2019 to reorient products to suit exports, foreign and domestic tourist retail and niche corporate gifting needs. They set up four micro skill development centres across the city. Besides zardozi, marble inlay and carpet making were the crafts identified. Week-long, full-day training sessions have been carried out for nearly 300 artisans from self-help groups (SHGs).

Reskilling shows way

Alok Saxena, project manager of the micro skill development initiative, says a market survey conducted before beginning the programme showed that tourists preferred to buy pocket-friendly souvenirs compact enough to carry back home. "We decided to reskill these artisans to give them design ideas on what to make," he said.

An intricate art: Zardozi embroidery technique uses thin metal threads on silk, satin, or velvet. R. V. MOORTHY

Marble inlay work, for example, focused on embellishments instead of larger designs. Similarly, in the carpet industry, the design for the famous Agra durree woven in a colour-blocking technique, was redesigned to make wall hangings with intricate embroidery. Everything was reoriented to be done by hand to bring down pollution around the Taj Mahal.

"We trained them in retaining the essence of the craft while working on the pattern," said designer Swati Gupta, a trainer for marble inlay work. Theme-based training was also given. Results included zardozi *rakhis* during *Rakshabandhan*, Braj- and Madhubani-themed wall hangings during *Janmashtami*, and a special series of car hangers and coasters for Christmas. "The focus was on popular themes. One of the first ranges to be created was on yoga, to attract the overseas market," said Ms. Gupta.

Insights on marketing

There is also another set of training workshops for digital and financial literacy and entrepreneurship that includes insights on how to market products on e-commerce websites.

The entire operation is carried out with 107 SHGs – each with 10-15 members – out of which 100 have only women members. All the SHGs have their own bank accounts with money being credited directly. To date, 1,230 women have been given entrepreneurship training. Annually, at least four training sessions are carried out for consistent skill upgradation. These SHGs are managed by five federations, which in turn come under the umbrella of a city-level federation responsible for marketing and order creation. The turnover of the city federation has been ₹30 lakh between July 2021 to March 2023.

The workshops have almost tripled their household incomes, say the artisans. Danish Baksh's family has been traditionally involved in marble inlay work. Despite a post-graduate degree in history, Mr. Baksh had difficulty finding employment and was only able to find jobs in small factories, barely making ₹8,000 a month.

After the reskilling, he set up an SHG with 10 members and is manufacturing products such as wall plates and other décor items. "Our family's income has jumped to ₹25,000 a month," he said.

KATHMANDU

Nepal PM Prachanda says his visit to India will script 'new history'

REUTERS

Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal "Prachanda" said that Nepal has made "good preparations" for his upcoming visit to India this time and it will script "new history" in bilateral ties. The visit to India would be the 68-year-old leader's first foreign trip after he became Prime Minister for the third time in December last year. PTI

GHIBULLO

14 persons killed, over 36,000 people displaced by Italy floods

AFP

More than 36,000 people have now been forced from their homes by deadly floods in northeast Italy. Violent downpours earlier this week killed 14 people, transforming streets of the Emilia Romagna region into rivers. Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni said she was leaving the G-7 summit early to deal with the emergency. AFP

TEHRAN

Iran executes leader of human trafficking and prostitution group

AFP

Iran executed a man convicted of leading a human trafficking and prostitution ring, a day after hanging three men linked to protests triggered by Mahsa Amini's death. "Following confirmation of the sentence of Shahrouz Sokhanvari, aka Alex, in the supreme court, he was hanged this morning," the judiciary's news website said. AFP

TAIPEI

Taiwan President vows to keep 'status quo' on cross-strait relations

REUTERS

Taiwanese President Tsai Ing-wen vowed to maintain peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait with China, saying that "war is not an option". Under Tsai's two terms as President, the self-ruled island has seen stepped-up warplanes and sea incursions from China, which claims Taiwan as its territory.

Sri Lanka slams Canada over 'Tamil Genocide Day' remarks

Foreign Minister Ali Sabry summoned Canadian High Commissioner and stated that PM Trudeau's 'politically motivated statement was divisive and issued for domestic political consumption'

Meera Srinivasan
COLOMBO

Sri Lanka on Friday "condemned and rejected outright" the remarks made by Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau on May 18, marked as 'Tamil Genocide Remembrance Day' by the North American country.

According to a press release issued by Sri Lanka's Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Saturday, Foreign Minister Ali Sabry summoned Canadian High Commissioner Eric Walsh and stated that Mr. Trudeau's "politically motivated statement was divisive and issued for domestic political consumption". "Sri Lanka vehemently rejects this unsubstantiated allegation of 'genocide' relating to the country's almost three decades of terrorist conflict perpetuated by the LTTE," the statement further said.

Mr. Trudeau had said the stories of the Tamil-Canadians affected by the conflict "serve as an enduring reminder that human rights, peace, and democracy cannot be taken for granted. That's why Parliament last year unanimously adopted the motion to make May 18 Tamil Genocide Remembrance Day."

Etched in history: A commemorative event held in Mullivaikkal in Mullaitivu district in Sri Lanka on May 18. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

In January this year, Canada imposed sanctions on former Presidents Gotabaya Rajapaksa and his brother Mahinda Rajapaksa, for committing "gross and systematic violations of human rights" during the civil war.

Fourteen years since Sri Lanka's civil war ended, claiming tens of thousands of Tamil civilians' lives in the final battle in Mullivaikkal in the northern Mullaitivu district, the island remains deeply divided over the war and its end.

Final battle

On May 18, the Tamils remember their loved ones, who were found dead or disappeared around the final battle, even as they continue struggling for justice and seeking accountability for alleged war crimes.

The Sri Lankan state denies the allegations, despite internationally acknowledged evidence of mass civilian deaths in an area that the military had assured was a "No Fire Zone". The UN's estimates, widely considered conservative, point to around 40,000 civilian deaths.

Claiming that the final battle was a "humanitarian operation", the Sri Lankan state marks May 19 as "Victory Day" to celebrate its soldiers as "war heroes", as it did on Friday in the presence of President Ranil Wickremesinghe and Prime Minister Dinesh Gunawardena.

Despite intimidation, periodic surveillance, and obstacles in the past – including the removal of war victims' memorial by authorities – scores of Tamils gathered at Mullivaikkal on Thursday to pay respects to their loved ones. It is the site at the island's northeastern edge, where their relatives were last seen alive before succumbing to Army shelling.

Wagner claims Bakhmut captured, Kyiv says fight is ongoing, situation critical

Agence France-Presse
MOSCOW

Russia's private Army Wagner claimed on Saturday the total control of the east Ukrainian city of Bakhmut, the epicentre of fighting, as Kyiv said the battle was continuing but admitted the situation was "critical".

Bakhmut, a salt mining town that once had a population of 70,000, has been the scene of the longest and bloodiest battle in Moscow's more than year-long Ukraine offensive.

The fall to Russia of Bakhmut, where both Moscow and Kyiv are believed to have suffered huge losses, would have high symbolic value.

Relief for Moscow

If confirmed, Bakhmut's loss would allow Moscow to bring home a victory after a series of humiliating defeats. It would also come before a major counteroffensive that Kyiv has been preparing for months.

The announcement by Wagner came as Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky took part in the G-7 summit in Japan.

Treacherous path: Bakhmut's loss would allow Russia to bring home a victory after a series of humiliating defeats. AFP

The mercenary group's boss Yevgeny Prigozhin claimed the city had fallen to his mercenaries in a video posted on Telegram.

"Today on May 20, around midday, Bakhmut was taken in its entirety," Prigozhin said in the video, adding that Wagner fighters would search the captured city before handing it over to Russian Army.

"By May 25 we will completely examine (Bakhmut), create the necessary lines of defence and hand it to the military," Mr. Prigozhin said.

Ukraine, which earlier this month claimed successes in and around Bakhmut, said the fighting for the city was ongoing.

"Heavy fighting in Bakhmut. The situation is critical," Deputy Defence Minister Ganna Malyar posted on Telegram. She said Ukrainian troops were "holding the defence" in the city's "Airplane area".

"As of now, our defenders control certain industrial and infrastructure facilities in the area," she said.

WHO's global network to detect threat from diseases

Agence France-Presse
GENEVA

The World Health Organization on Saturday launched a global network to help swiftly detect the threat from infectious diseases, like COVID-19, and share the information to prevent their spread.

The International Pathogen Surveillance Network (IPSN) will provide a platform for connecting countries and regions, improving systems for collecting and analysing samples, the agency said.

The network aims to help ensure infectious disease threats are swiftly identified and tracked while the information is shared and acted on to prevent catastrophes like the Coronavirus pandemic.

The network will rely on pathogen genomics to analyse the genetic code of viruses, bacteria and other disease-causing organisms.

WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus hailed the "ambitious" goals of the new network, saying it could "play a vital role in health security".

Pak. Taliban's new 'hit list' names Maryam Nawaz, Rana Sanaullah

Press Trust of India
ISLAMABAD

Pakistan's banned Taliban militant outfit is planning to target senior political leaders like Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah and PML-N party vice president Maryam Nawaz along with top military and intelligence officials under a new hit list, according to a media report.

The new list prepared by the outlawed Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) and its affiliate Jamaat-ul-Ahraar (JuA) also includes several other senior government officials, and has emerged a day after rightwing religious-political party Jamaat-i-Islami chief Sirajul Haq survived a suicide bombing in a remote area of Balochistan province on May 19, the News International reported on Friday.

Pak. trans activists to fight Islamic court verdict in SC

Agence France-Presse
KARACHI

Activists on Saturday vowed to launch a Supreme Court challenge against a ruling by Pakistan's religious judiciary, which deemed various transgender legal protections un-Islamic and therefore void.

On Friday, the Federal Shariat Court – which determines whether laws accord to Islam – struck down three sections of a 2018 act hailed for providing landmark rights to the transgender community.

The Bench struck out the definition of a transgender person enshrined in law, also undoing their right to state documents like passports and inheritance proceedings matching their self-ascribed gender identity.

More stigma

"This decision will further increase the incidents of violence against transgender people," said Shahzadi Rai, of the Gender Interactive Alliance and Sindh province's trans pride Moorat March organisation.

Despite a rich history in South Asia, most trans Pakistanis are forced to live on the fringes of society – often resorting to begging or sex work for survival.

The Human Rights Commission of Pakistan said 19 trans people were murdered in Pakistan last year and accused the state of getting "cold feet" over community protections.

The country's Federal Shariat Court was established in 1980 during the rule of military dictator Zia-ul-Haq as part of a sweeping Islamisation of Pakistan's institutions. Under the Constitution, laws deemed "repugnant" to Islam according to a Bench of Muslim judges can "cease to have effect".

In divided Turkey, Tayyip Erdogan's hold is weakened but not broken

Nishtha Gautam
ISTANBUL

"Why are you so curious," Cehan finally asked after at least 40 minutes of Google Translate-aided conversation. And suddenly, it occurred to me that his honest responses could have got him in trouble if he was not careful. Sitting on a public bench in Kaleici, Antalya, overlooking the blue Mediterranean waters, we discussed politics, President Erdogan's possible return, growing religiosity in Turkey, steep inflation, and the Kurds.

On May 15, President Recep Tayyip Erdogan – an Islamist who was imprisoned on the charges of inciting religious hatred and violence in 1999 while holding the mayoral office of Istanbul – prayed at Hagia Sophia for his return as Turkey's most powerful man. In the opinion polls before the May 14 elections, Kemal Kilicdaroglu, Mr. Erdogan's rival and the opposition coalition candidate, was said to have a slight edge. However, the preliminary results showed that Mr. Erdogan won 49.5% of the votes against Mr. Kılıcdaroglu's 44.9%, and his coalition has secured a comfortable majority in Parliament.

A resurgent Mr. Erdogan will now face off Mr. Kılıcdaroglu in a presidential run-off on May 28.

Stirred but not shaken

Clearly, his hold over Turkey is stirred, not shaken. For each Ataturkist Turkish citizen, there's at least one staunch Erdogan supporter and half a decrier of the "West's conspiracy to undermine Islam".

Cehan, 36, is a fitness trainer in Antalya and he wasn't expecting to be ambushed by a curious foreigner on a sunny afternoon. He was there with his friend, Orhan, smoking cigarettes and drinking beer that the duo kept furnishing from a tiny black plastic bag. "If he [Erdogan] comes back, we won't be able to drink beer in public like this," he typed on his phone. "My parents are Ottoman supporters, but I am an Ataturk," he said, referring to Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, the founder of modern, secular Turkey.

He declared with mellow pride and echoed the sentiment of many a man and woman in Istanbul, Izmir, Bursa and Pamukkale.

The night before, Semi, 29, a jeweller, was a lot more boisterous. He spoke English with reasonable ease. "I live away from my family because they don't understand my life and choices. I was with them for Bayrham Ramzan (Idul-Fitr) but that's all. They are becoming increasingly religious, and I cannot deal with it any more." Semi, however, believes in the Illuminati. He will vote against Mr. Erdogan.

Close contest: A political worker of the Turkish Workers' Party (TIP), puts up posters of party candidates. NISHTHA GAUTAM

Barak, 34, a tourist guide in Istanbul, had given me a great primer the day I landed in Turkey on what most young people in coastal Turkish cities thought of the two decades of Mr. Erdogan's rule. His guided tour in the Sultanahmet neighbourhood of Istanbul was deeply political in spirit. "The Ottomans decided to convert Hagia Sophia, the church, into a mosque [in the 15th century, after the fall of the Constantinople]. They wanted to send a message to all the Muslims worldwide that now they were the caretakers of Islam. Many centuries later, the same message has been conveyed with the conversion of Hagia Sophia the museum into a mosque," he said.

Ataturk, who abolished the Caliphate, closed down Hagia Sophia in 1930. Five years later, it was reopened as a museum. Mr. Erdogan turned it back to a mosque in July 2020.

"Erdogan has destroyed our country beyond repair," Barak continued. "People wanted employment, education, and healthcare, he gave them religion."

Inshallah, Erdogan

Despite the criticisms he faces and the mounting economic woes of Turkey, including runaway inflation, Mr. Erdogan's supporters remain adamant and confident. Mehmet, 20, who works in a small cafe in the Ilhara Valley in the tourist-riddled Cappadocia region, says, "Inshallah, Erdogan!" He responded to my sly question about the next possible President that I cautiously slip in after almost an hour of Google Translate-facilitated conversations about food, fashion, education, family, and girls. I smile and ask about the state of the economy. This time his father, Yunus, gesticulates, "Prices up up up!" Inflation has been Mr. Erdogan's biggest challenge as it surged to above 85% last year and is hovering around 40% now. Why is he not able to control inflation, I enquire. Mehmet punched the following on my keypad: "Everything is in control. All is well. Mashallah."

My conversation is interrupted by an incoming canvassing party. Yilmaz Ilhan, a local candidate, arrives with his supporters to seek votes. Contesting as an independent, he is sure that Mr. Erdogan will come back. Equally confident was Birsen Aliçi, a political worker of the Turkish Workers' Party (TIP), who was putting up posters of her candidates at midnight in Antalya and wanted me to meet them. "We'll make sure Erdogan does not come back to power. Turkey has had enough."

There is Najat (name changed), too. A hardcore Ataturkist, Najat works with Turkish Airlines. "Even if I woke up on May 29 and saw the regime change, I won't be able to believe it. He [Erdogan] will not go easily. He cannot afford to, there are too many skeletons in his cupboard. Yes, you may call me a pessimist."

As despondency surges in the anti-Erdogan camp, all eyes are now on Ekrem İmamoğlu, mayor of Istanbul and Kemal Kilicdaroglu's vice presidential candidate. What Turkey decides will have consequences not just for the country, but for the rest of the world, too.

Nishtha Gautam is a Delhi-based writer and entrepreneur.

Global polio targets set for this year unlikely to be met

The Hindu Bureau

Since 1988, when the World Health Assembly established the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI), wild poliovirus subtype-2 and subtype-3 have been successfully eradicated. The number of wild poliovirus cases across the world have sharply dropped by more than 99.9%.

Today, Afghanistan and Pakistan are the only countries where indigenous wild poliovirus subtype-1 transmission continues uninterrupted.

Rise in cases

Last year, the number of wild poliovirus subtype reported from Afghanistan and Pakistan shot up to 22 (two in Afghanistan, and 20 in Pakistan), from just five such cases in 2021. All the 20 cases reported in Pakistan were from security-compromised districts in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, representing a 19-fold increase over the single case reported in 2021. As of May 10, 2023, one case of wild poliovirus subtype-1 (WPV1) was reported in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. In the case of Afghanistan, the latest reported WPV1 case was on August 29, 2022.

This year, as of May 10, one WPV1 case has been reported in Pakistan (February 20, 2023), while two cases have been detected from environmental samples. In contrast, there have been no wild poliovirus subtype-1 cases reported this year in Afghanistan, while 18 positive environmental samples have been reported so far this year.

Cause for concern

According to a recent report in the *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* (MMWR), 859 cases of circulating vaccine-derived polioviruses (cVDPVs) have been reported last year. This marks an increase of 23% (698 cases) increase in such cases a year earlier – 2021. But what is particularly concerning is the fact that circulating vaccine-derived polioviruses have been reported from countries where poliovirus transmission had long been eliminated such as Canada, Israel, the U.K. and the U.S. In addition, there has been co-circulation of multiple poliovirus types occurring in multiple countries globally – Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Israel, Malawi, Mozambique, Republic of the Congo, and Yemen.

The report warns that it is "unlikely" that the current global epidemiology of poliovirus transmission will make it possible to meet the 2022-2026 GPEI goal of detecting the last cases of WPV1 and cVDPV this year.

Novel host-directed molecules blunt SARS-CoV-2, influenza virus

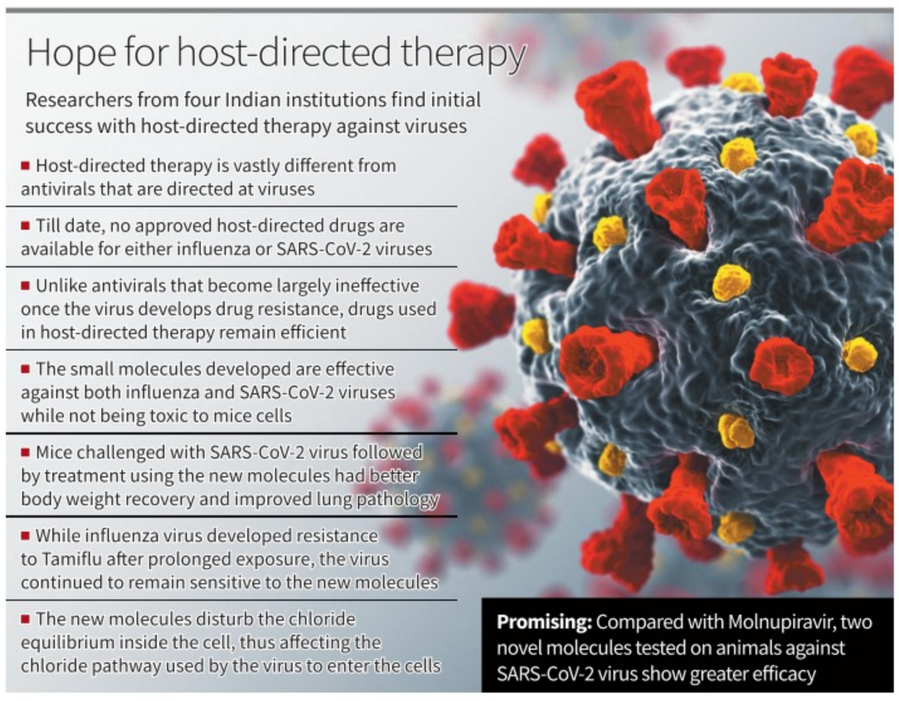
Virus can develop resistance against antivirals, while drugs that target the host cells to prevent virus infection can remain effective even when the virus evolves

R. Prasad

Indian researchers have, for the first time, been able to synthesise small molecules that can effectively halt the infection of cells by SARS-CoV-2 and influenza viruses by targeting the hosts. In place of antivirals that directly target the virus in question, the team, co-led by researchers at IISER Mohali and IIT Ropar, attempted the host-directed therapy. Till date, no approved host-directed drugs are available for either SARS-CoV-2 or influenza virus.

In both cultured cells and animal studies, the small molecules that were synthesised by Dr. Prabal Banerjee's team at the Department of Chemistry, IIT Ropar showed over 95% efficacy in halting the infection of cells by SARS-CoV-2 and influenza viruses. The results were published in *PLOS Pathogens*.

While antivirals that target the virus become ineffective once the virus develops resistance, drugs that target the host cells to prevent the virus from infecting them, are expected to remain effective even when the virus evolves by accumulating mutations.


Hope for host-directed therapy
Researchers from four Indian institutions find initial success with host-directed therapy against viruses
Host-directed therapy is vastly different from antivirals that are directed at viruses
Till date, no approved host-directed drugs are available for either influenza or SARS-CoV-2 viruses
Unlike antivirals that become largely ineffective once the virus develops drug resistance, drugs used in host-directed therapy remain efficient
The small molecules developed are effective against both influenza and SARS-CoV-2 viruses while not being toxic to mice cells
Mice challenged with SARS-CoV-2 virus followed by treatment using the new molecules had better body weight recovery and improved lung pathology
While influenza virus developed resistance to Tamiflu after prolonged exposure, the virus continued to remain sensitive to the new molecules
The new molecules disturb the chloride equilibrium inside the cell, thus affecting the chloride pathway used by the virus to enter the cells
Promising: Compared with Molnupiravir, two novel molecules tested on animals against SARS-CoV-2 virus show greater efficacy

Evidence

There is already evidence that the current FDA-approved drugs for treating SARS-CoV-2 and influenza virus infection are losing their efficacy due to the emergence of drug-resistant virus strains. In host-directed therapy, the challenge is that molecules can very often turn out to be toxic to the host cells, the reason why this approach has not been widely adopted.

The small molecules were not only effective (over 95%) against both SARS-CoV-2 and influenza viruses, they were not toxic to either cultured cells or mice even after prolonged exposure.

"We initially tested 28 compounds for their effectiveness in blocking influenza virus from infecting the lung cells. Of the 28 molecules screened, one molecule – 1,3-diphenylurea derivative (DPUD) – was able to block both SARS-CoV-2 and influenza virus infection by almost 100% in cells without being toxic to the cells," recalls Dr. Prabal Banerjee, who is one of the corresponding authors. "This prompted us to synthesise 22 additional DPUDs. Five of the total 23 DPUDs were found to be highly effective against both viruses, while one molecule tested against influenza virus and two tested against SARS-CoV-2 in mice were found to be highly effective without causing toxicity to the animals."

"The discovery of host-directed DPUD molecules was serendipity," says Nirmal Kumar, a PhD student from IISER Mohali and first author of the paper. "When we began this work in early 2020, we were looking for potent anti-influenza agents through high-throughput screening of small molecules. We identified DPUDs that efficiently blocked influenza infection. After several experiments, we realised that the small molecules (DPUDs) were host-directed and found that they block the cell entry pathway of influenza virus."

Better recovery

"Compared with Molnupiravir, two DPUD molecules that we tested on animals against SARS-CoV-2 showed better efficacy. Mice challenged with the virus followed by treatment with DPUDs showed better body weight recovery and improvement of lung pathology," says Indranil Banerjee from the Department of Biological Sciences at IISER Mohali, and one of the corresponding authors of the paper. In the case of influenza virus, one DPUD was tested on mice.

"We mimicked influenza virus evolution in the presence of Tamiflu and DPUD. The virus developed resistance to Tamiflu after prolonged exposure (10 generations) but not to the DPUD tested," says Dr. Indranil. "The virus remained sensitive to the DPUD despite prolonged exposure and this is the reason why the small molecule was able to inhibit infection."

Explaining how the small molecules were able to block virus entry into cells, Dr. Indranil says the chloride concentration inside and outside a cell varies. Maintaining equilibrium of chloride concentration inside the cell is critical for endocytosis.

"These molecules carry chloride ions into the cell, thereby leading to a large accumulation of chloride inside the cell, disturbing the chloride equilibrium. When the chloride equilibrium is disturbed, some endocytic pathways become non-functional. As a result, the viruses fail to enter the cells and establish infection," explains Dr. Indranil Banerjee.

However, the precise mechanism by which virus entry into the cell is blocked by DPUDs is not clear. "Probably the small molecules target the pathways the viruses use to enter cells while keeping the other pathways open, so the cell health remains unaffected," Dr. Indranil says.

The small molecules were found to be highly effective when tested against H1N1 and H3N2 influenza virus sub-types and the SARS-CoV-2 Wuhan, Delta, and two Omicron variants of concern.

New technique welcomes calcium-41 to radiometric dating

Vasudevan Mukunth

Since its invention in 1947, carbon dating has revolutionised many fields of science by allowing scientists to estimate the age of an organic material based on how much carbon-14 it contains. However, carbon-14 has a half-life of 5,700 years, so the technique cannot determine the age of objects older than around 50,000 years.

Calcium-41

In 1979, scientists suggested using calcium-41, with a half-life of 99,400 years.. It is produced when cosmic rays from space smash into calcium atoms in the soil, and is found in the earth's crust, opening the door to dating fossilised bones and rock. But several problems need to be overcome before it can be used to reliably date objects.

One important advancement was reported in *Nature Physics* in March 2023.

When an organic entity is alive, its body keeps absorbing and losing carbon-14 atoms. When it dies, this process stops and the extant carbon-14 starts to decay away. Using the difference between the relative abundance of these atoms in the body and the number that should have been there, researchers can estimate when the entity died.

A significant early issue with carbon dating was to detect carbon-14 atoms, which occur once in around 1,012 carbon atoms. Calcium-41 is rarer, occurring once in around 1,015 calcium atoms.

In the new study, researchers at the University of Science and Technology of China (USTC), Hefei, pitched a technique called atom-trap trace analysis (ATTA) as a solution. ATTA is sensitive enough to spot these atoms; specific enough to not confuse them for other similar atoms and fits on a tabletop.

A sample is vaporised in an oven. The atoms in the vapour are laser-cooled and loaded into a cage made of light and magnetic fields. In an atom, an electron in one orbital can transition to the next if it's given a specific amount of energy; then it jumps back by releasing that energy.

Limitation: Carbon-14 dating cannot determine the age of objects older than around 50,000 years.

Electron transition

In ATTA, a laser's frequency is tuned such that it imparts the same energy as required for an electron transition in calcium-41. The electrons absorb and release this energy, revealing the presence of their atoms.

The researchers reported being able to spot one calcium-41 atom in every 1,016 calcium atoms with 12% precision in seawater.

"However, there was only one sample analysed," Tian Xia, an associate scientist at the USTC and a co-author of the paper, told *The Hindu* by email.

In future, "we hope that from the effusive atomic beam, the loading efficiency of the Ca-41 atoms into the trap can be improved," so that the measurement time for each sample is lower and the sensitivity is higher, Dr. Xia added.

His group leader, Zheng-Tian Lu, said in the journal, *Physics Today*, that ATTA's success is due to innovations with lasers: "laser power is a lot higher, and laser frequency control is better".

ATTA also avoids potassium-41 atoms, which are similar to calcium-41 atoms but lack the same electron transition.

Earth-science application

The researchers are currently exploring an earth-science application. In warmer climate, glaciers retreat and allow rock below to accumulate calcium-41. In colder climate, glaciers advance and block the calcium-41 from reaching the rock.

This way, scientists hope to use ATTA to study how long some rock has been covered by ice.

"We are collaborating with geo-scientists... by measuring the Ca-41 abundance in some rock samples," Dr. Xia said.

SNAPSHOTS

Fear of large predators drives mesopredators to safer areas

Medium-sized carnivorous species – mesopredators like coyotes or bobcats – tend to move into human-dominated areas to avoid predation by larger carnivores, a phenomenon also known as the "human shield" effect. But this places the safety-seeking species at considerably greater risk for mortality due to human activities. The findings (*Science*) describe a "paradox of the lethal human shield" for mesopredators, which has been linked to increased wildlife survival rates in some instances.

Analysis reveals decline in lake water storage worldwide

The amount of water stored in more than half of the largest lakes and reservoirs worldwide is declining (*Science*) due to warming climate and increased human impacts. This underscores the importance of accounting for these impacts in future surface water resources management strategies. Combining satellite measurements with climate and hydrologic models, researchers have built a global dataset of decadal-scale trends in lake water storage from 1992 to 2020 for 2,000 of the world's largest lakes and reservoirs.

Forests have limited carbon sequestration potential

Researchers have investigated the natural limits to additional carbon accumulation in the biomass of forests in the hypothetical absence of all direct human forest management activities. Under current climatic conditions and the removal of all forest management activities, existing forests could increase biomass by 44.1 petagrams of carbon. This represents 15% more carbon, which would only offset about four years of carbon dioxide under current emission rates.

Question Corner

Fate of earth

What is the fate of earth after five billion years?

As a star runs out of fuel, it will billow out to a million times its original size, engulfing any matter, including planets, in its wake. Until now, scientists have observed hints of stars just before and shortly after the act of consuming entire planets, but they have never caught one in the act (*Nature*).

The planetary demise appears to have taken place in our own galaxy, some 12,000 light-years away, near the eagle-like constellation, Aquila. There, astronomers spotted an outburst from a star that became more than 100 times brighter over just 10 days, before quickly fading away.

This white-hot flash was followed by a colder, longer-lasting signal. This combination could only have been produced by one event: a star engulfing a nearby planet, as per a release.

The scientists estimate that it was likely a hot, Jupiter-sized world that spiralled close, then was pulled into the dying star's core. A similar fate will befall earth, though not for another five billion years, when the sun is expected to burn up the solar system's inner planets.

Readers may send their questions / answers to questioncorner@thehindu.co.in

WHO's guideline on non-sugar sweeteners

Why have sweeteners like saccharin been linked to diabetes, cardiovascular diseases and other ailments?

Maitri Porecha

The story so far:

The World Health Organization (WHO) issued new guidelines on May 15 advising against the use of non-sugar sweeteners (NSS) like aspartame, saccharin, stevia and other derivatives as a "healthy" alternative to sugar. In its 'conditional' guideline, WHO says non-sugar sweeteners should not be used as a means of achieving weight control or reducing risk of diet-related non-communicable diseases. The spotlight on NSS intensified after 2015, when the WHO had said that high intake of free sugars is linked to weight gain and obesity, leading consumers to turn to NSS as an alternative.

What are non-sugar sweeteners?

Non-sugar sweeteners (NSS) are marketed as low or no-calorie alternatives to free sugars which aid in weight loss, and in controlling blood glucose in individuals with diabetes. NSS categories studied by WHO include acesulfame K, aspartame, advantame, cyclamates, neotame, saccharin, sucralose, stevia, and stevia derivatives. Aspartame is popularly used to sweeten diet colas that claim to have 'no sugar, no calories.' Saccharin is used to sweeten tea or coffee.

How did WHO conclude its findings?

The WHO analysed a total of 283 studies on the intake of NSS in adults and children. The outcome of the trials was that they noted 'higher intake' of NSS was associated with a 76% increase in risk of obesity and a 0.14 kg/m2 increase in BMI (Body Mass Index). The WHO warned that long-term use of NSS could lead to increased risk of Type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, chronic kidney disease and cancer.

Non-sugar sweeteners are known to affect the gut; rethink the diet cola, cautions a doctor

Dr. Ambrish Mithal, Chairman and Head, Endocrinology and Diabetes division of Max Healthcare Hospital, says more studies are required because currently the evidence cited by the WHO on non-sugar sweeteners has been categorised into either moderate, low or very low certainty. Moderate certainty indicates that WHO is moderately confident about the risks and that the true effect is likely to be close to the estimate, but there is a possibility that it is substantially different.

Dr. Mithal says the guidelines have been particularly issued "to prevent unfettered consumption of artificially sweetened products like chocolates and colas, as consumers tend to over-indulge in these with a perception that they may be better than sugary products."

What are the concerns?

Health experts point out that India should take necessary steps to guide people on non-sugar sweeteners because one in nine women and one in 25 men are obese, according to the latest National Family Health Survey. Obese people are more prone to suffer from diabetes. There are an estimated 25 million people living with pre-diabetes in India, according to WHO data. Two or three decades ago, Dr. Mithal says he never diagnosed a 20-year-old or a 25-year-old with lifestyle-related Type 2 diabetes. "This has changed. Now for every three young patients who are Type 1 (diabetic at birth due to genetic factors), I have one patient under 25 years who has diabetes due to lifestyle and diet-related causes," he explains. Those who are obese in their teenage years and diabetic in their twenties have a higher chance of getting heart attacks in their thirties and forties, he cautions.

A food industry player who adds artificial sweeteners to the ice-creams the company sells says: "For us, developing products that have no added sugar but taste as sweet with similar palatability is a priority." Dr. Mithal points out that non-sugar sweeteners are known to have an effect on the gut and bones and that they cause bloating. "I know young patients who have at least six diet colas a day. This needs to be restricted," he says.

What is WHO's nutritional advice?

The WHO says it is difficult to view the role of NSS in isolation when it comes to weight loss studies that were analysed, so it is important to note that the quality (nutritional profile) and quantity of diet are also crucial in this matrix. It recommends having alternative foods which are minimally processed, unsweetened foods and beverages. While analysing studies, WHO has found that weight loss in certain subjects cannot entirely be attributed to switching from sugars to NSS, as it also depended on having a reduced portion size or energy intake of food.

What happens next?

The Ministry of Health will have to initiate discussions among policy-makers before it decides to adopt this 'conditional' recommendation as a national policy, say health experts. The WHO recommends that with the help of this guideline, efforts should be made, with a focus on youngsters, to tweak taste preferences and eating behaviours.

How has SC validated T.N. stand on *jallikattu*?

Why has the judgment brought cheer to the Tamil Nadu government and supporters of the sport? Will it be applicable to similar races in other States? Is regulation preferred over a ban? How has the court dealt with animal rights?

K. Venkataramanan

The story so far:

Jallikattu, the traditional rural sport involving bulls, has received judicial approval. A Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court has ruled that the amendment made in 2017 by the Tamil Nadu Assembly to the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960, facilitating the smooth conduct of the sport with stringent regulations, is valid. The court has, thus, settled the question whether the sport should be disallowed on the ground that it involves unnecessary cruelty to animals and violates animal rights. The verdict is also applicable to other sports involving bovines such as *Kambala* (buffalo race) in Karnataka and bullock-cart racing in Maharashtra.

What are the controversies over *jallikattu*?

The main conflict over the sport, which involves sturdy bulls being let loose into the arena and being chased by men who are considered winners if they manage to hold on to the humps of the animals without being thrown off, is whether it entails unnecessary cruelty. Animal rights activists have been arguing that the manner in which it is held is cruel because it inflicts pain and suffering. What appears to be a bull's ferocity in the arena is actually a flight response born out of fear. Specific acts that allegedly took place in the past – before the events were regulated by law – such as beating the bulls or twisting their tails and other acts that inflict pain so that they are more ferocious in the arena, are now rare.

In 2006, a Madras High Court judge, when a petition for permission to hold a *rekla* race (a kind of bullock cart race) came up before her, barred the conduct of any such event including *jallikattu*. On appeal, a Division Bench set aside the order, but asked the government to take steps to prevent any kind of violence or cruelty as well as ensure the safety of the participants and spectators. It favoured regulation over an outright ban. The State Assembly adopted the Tamil Nadu Regulation of Jallikattu Act in 2009 to strengthen its case for holding the event by adopting regulations and safety measures. In July 2011, the Union Ministry of Environment and Forests issued a notification including 'bulls' in a list of animals that are prohibited from being exhibited or trained for any performance. Efforts to organise the sport as a regulated event failed and *jallikattu* could not take place for some years.

A Constitution Bench has accepted the basic argument that *jallikattu* is part of the cultural heritage of Tamils

The ban caused a bitter divide in society between two camps: those who believed that *jallikattu* should be organised without any hindrance as it was part of the State's tradition and culture, and that its continuance was needed to preserve the native breeds of bulls on the one hand; and those who believed it cannot be regulated at all as it amounted to cruelty and ill-treatment of animals in any form. Further, the number of human casualties during the events every year also raised concern about the safety of the participants and spectators.

Extreme sport: People participating in *Jallikattu* in Tiruchi in 2022. PTI

Why did the Supreme Court ban the sport?

In a landmark verdict that established a rights jurisprudence for animals under the Constitution, the Supreme Court imposed a ban on *jallikattu* and similar sports involving animals in 2014. It held the Tamil Nadu law regulating the sport as repugnant to the Central legislation on preventing cruelty to animals. It said the Act was "anthropocentric" in the sense that it sought to protect the interests of organisers, spectators and participants and not the animals. On the other hand, the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 (PCA) was an "ecocentric" law. The Bench ruled that the provisions of the State law were contrary to provisions of the Central Act in three ways: it went against the statutory duty of anyone with the care or charge of any animal to ensure its well-being and prevent infliction of unnecessary pain or suffering, the bar on using animals solely for entertainment and inciting them to fight and the restrictions on the training and exhibition of performing animals.

The court cited the 'Five Freedoms' recognised for animals by the World Health Organization for Animal Health – freedom from hunger, thirst and malnutrition; freedom from fear and distress; freedom from physical and thermal discomfort; freedom from pain, injury and disease; and freedom to express normal patterns of behaviour and said that these freedoms should be read into the provisions favouring animal rights found in the PCA.

What was Tamil Nadu's response?

A massive agitation broke out in January 2017 against the government's failure to facilitate the conduct of *jallikattu* for successive years, with tens of thousands of people, especially youngsters, occupying the sands of the Marina in Chennai for days. This led to a surge of support for *jallikattu*. The government of then Chief Minister O. Panneerselvam agreed to take legislative measures. With the Union government's cooperation, it obtained the President's prior instruction to issue an ordinance that sought to remove the basis for the 2014 Supreme Court judgment.

To avoid repugnancy with the Central law, the ordinance, which was replaced by an Act within a few days, was adopted as a State-specific amendment to the PCA itself. It was framed in a way that would define *jallikattu* as an event organised to promote and follow tradition and culture and to preserve the native breeds of bulls. Its clauses were worded to remove the applicability of the PCA provisions to *jallikattu*. It added the sport as another exception to the list of acts the PCA itself allows as those that do not amount to cruelty (other exceptions include dehorning, castration and destruction of stray dogs and other animals). It made the restriction on use of animals for performances inapplicable to *jallikattu*, besides including the sport to the list of 'exemptions' from the rule against using some animals as performing animals. With the President giving his assent, the amendment became law in Tamil Nadu.

What does the SC ruling now say?

In its latest ruling, a Constitution Bench has accepted the basic argument that *jallikattu* is part of the cultural heritage of Tamils. It observed that the judiciary cannot examine the question whether something was part of tradition and culture, and that it would defer to the legislature's view in this regard. On this point, it differed from the 2014 verdict which had rejected the claim that the sport had cultural and traditional value. It upheld the Amendment Act, saying it has now legitimised the bovine sport and that it cannot be termed a piece of colourable legislation. The court recalled that the 2014 judgment had banned the sport by citing acts that amounted to cruelty then. However, the situation was now different, the Constitution Bench said, as the State amendment has been followed up with stringent regulations for conducting *jallikattu*. It ruled that the State legislation should be read along with the rules framed for holding these events. Therefore, there are no statutory violations now that warrant a ban on *jallikattu*.

Will all overseas spends come under tax net?

What has the Finance Ministry clarified on taxing foreign credit card spends under the Liberalised Remittance Scheme? What were the implications of the scheme and why was it under fire? What is the exemption limit set for tax collection at source?

Vikas Dhoot

The story so far:

A proposal in the Union Budget to levy a higher tax on some types of remittances of funds abroad came into the limelight again this week after a notification was issued for its implementation from July 1. Widespread outcry from taxpayers first compelled the government to issue an explainer on the rationale for the tax levy. By the end of the week, the Finance Ministry had made a partial U-turn to quell criticism.

What are the origins of these changes?

In the Budget for 2023-24 presented on February 1, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman proposed to raise the tax collection at source (TCS) rate on overseas tour packages as well as foreign remittances under the Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS). Indians are allowed to remit up to $2.5 lakh a year abroad under the LRS. For overseas tour packages, the TCS rate was to be raised from 5% to 20%. Similarly, a 20% tax was proposed for all remittances under the LRS, as opposed to the extant treatment – a 5% TCS on remittances over ₹7 lakh. This did not cover remittances made for education or medical expenses abroad, which are permitted up to ₹7 lakh each annually, and already attracted a 5% TCS.

Payments of up to ₹7 lakh on an international credit card have been exempted from the tax levy

On March 24, while introducing changes to the Finance Act of 2023, Ms. Sitharaman sought to tighten this proposal further. "It has been represented that payments for foreign tours through credit cards are not being captured under the LRS and such payments escape TCS. The Reserve Bank [of India or RBI] is being requested to look into this with a view to bring credit card payments for foreign tours within the ambit of LRS and tax collection on source, thereon," she said.

GETTY IMAGES

What were the notifications issued?

On May 16, the Finance Ministry notified the Foreign Exchange Management (Current Account Transactions) (Amendment) Rules, 2023, to bring all credit card spends abroad under the remit of the LRS. The new notification, drafted in consultation with the RBI, omitted Rule 7 of the Foreign Exchange Management (Current Account Transactions) Rules, 2000, which had kept credit cards out of the $2.5 lakh annual LRS limit as a liberalisation measure. These changes enabled the levy of a higher TCS on credit card spends overseas from July 1 this year, and the government gave an assurance that this will not impact purchases of foreign services like newspaper or streaming services subscriptions while being in India.

Why did it trigger a furore?

The 20% TCS levy on credit card spends abroad would mean any such expenses made abroad, barring for education and healthcare, would entail additional funds of the taxpayer being blocked which they could either adjust against any advance tax payments or await refunds from their income tax returns. For IT refunds, tax payers may end up waiting as long as 15 months if not more, as each assessment year's taxes are filed in the following financial year. Several people flagged this as unnecessary harassment and blocking of funds for honest taxpayers, and questioned the need for a 20% levy if the intent was to track such spending which is likely captured by the banks issuing credit cards already. A 2% or 5% TCS would have done the tracking job as well. Concerns were also raised on employees using cards during overseas work trips, and escalating costs for those who aspire for a foreign holiday.

How did the government counter criticism?

Reacting to sharp retorts from industry leaders, the Finance Ministry on Thursday issued a statement highlighting instances that have come to their notice where LRS payments are disproportionately high when compared to individuals' disclosed incomes. It said bona fide business visits overseas by employees won't be affected and the primary impact will be on tour travel packages, gifts to non-residents and domestic high net-worth individuals investing in assets such as real estate, bonds, stocks outside India. "Individuals remitting from their own funds are normally expected to be higher-income taxpayers," the Ministry stressed, adding that the 20% TCS rate is "not" high. "The tax rate slab of 20% starts in the new regime for incomes over ₹12 lakh and is 30% for incomes over ₹15 lakh," it pointed out.

What made the government blink?

These disclaimers didn't have their intended effect. Even the government's supporters termed this a return to "tax terrorism", a word often used by BJP leaders to target its predecessor UPA government. By Friday evening, the Ministry did a partial volte face. Payments abroad by an individual using their international credit cards up to ₹7 lakh per financial year were exempted from the TCS levy as well as the LRS calculations, but debit cards were also included within the same limit. The Ministry's stance was revised, it said, in a bid to remove "any procedural ambiguity" after "concerns have been raised about the applicability of TCS to small transactions under the LRS". While this has diluted the tenor of the criticism, concerns still persist about the levy's rationale and rate. Frequent business travellers may outrun the ₹7 lakh threshold quickly and await clarity on distinguishing personal card spends from business-related spends. Despite a rise in LRS outflows to about $24 billion in 2022-23, India's forex reserves remain robust at about $600 billion. "Why should people pay in the first place just to claim a refund," former Infosys Technologies' director T. V. Mohandas Pai said. In the interest of ease of doing business, the 20% TCS needs to be replaced with a 2% levy, he argued. More clarifications may be warranted to soothe this disgruntlement.

An AHINDA leader's new innings

Siddaramaiah

The 75-year-old Congress leader, who has kept faith in welfarism and secularism as the two constants throughout his political career, returns to power at a time when he faces greater challenges from within and outside the party

Bageshree S.

A year-old video that has resurfaced and gone viral after Siddaramaiah was finalised as Karnataka's Chief Minister shows him keeping pace with a group of folk Veera Makkala Kunita dancers at a temple *jathre* (fair) in his native village Siddaramanana Hundi in Mysuru district. The 75-year-old, who on Saturday was sworn in for a second term after a full-term stint between 2013 and 2018, is a leader who has been able to retain a rustic connect with the last man in a hierarchical society through not just gestures of this kind but also pro-poor schemes often pejoratively referred to as "freebies."

Born in a disadvantaged family of the shepherd community (Kuruba, an OBC caste), the unfavourable family circumstances had compelled him to skip schooling for some years. He took to cattle grazing to help the family and danced with the temple's Veera Makkala Kunita troupe when free. He eventually joined Class 4 directly, thanks to a local teacher who spotted his potential. Mr. Siddaramaiah went on to complete a B.Sc. from Mysore University, the first to do so from his family, and later studied law. During the announcement of the Anna Bhagya (free rice) scheme in the very first Cabinet meeting after being sworn in back in 2013, Mr. Siddaramaiah had said his aim was to make Karnataka free of hunger, which he had seen all around him in his growing years. The first Cabinet meeting in his second term too, on Saturday, began with announcements of the Congress manifesto's "guarantees" or welfare schemes. Mr. Siddaramaiah was drawn to Socialist ideals of Rammanohar Lohia during his student days and often cites them as one of the reasons behind his abiding faith in welfarism.

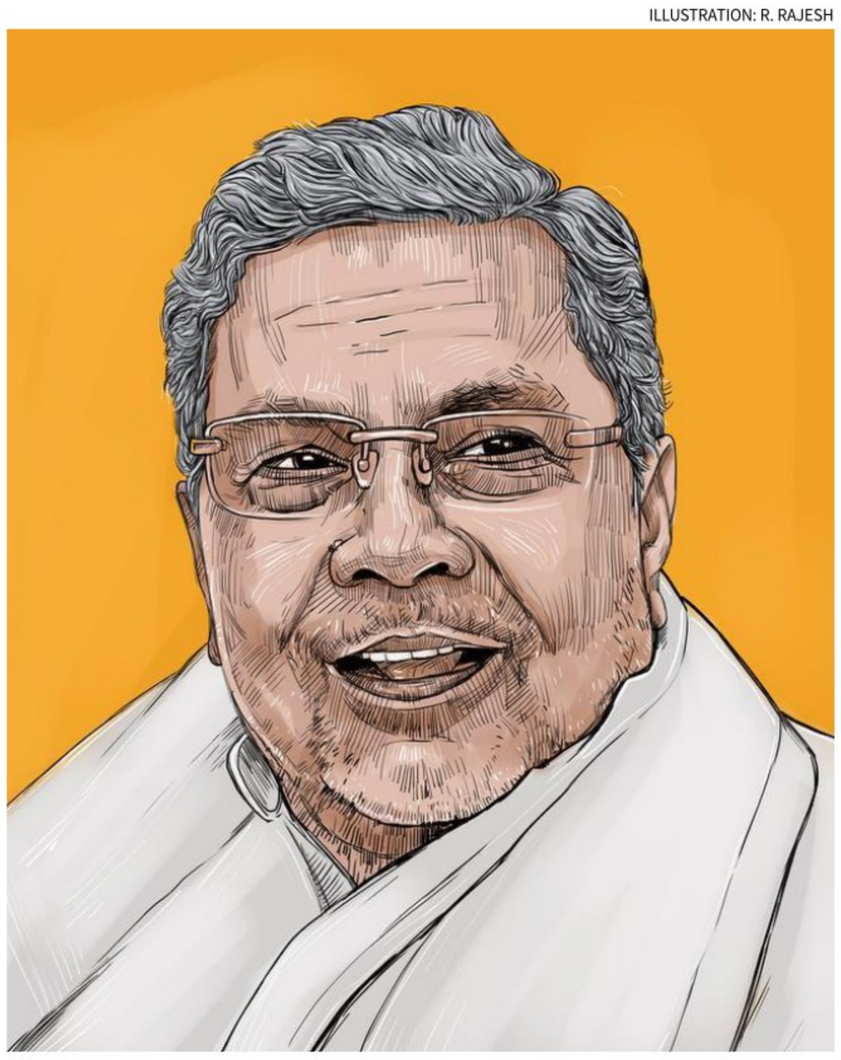
In fact, Mr. Siddaramaiah's political life began in the 1970s when Socialism was a big influence in Karnataka. It was in 1978 that he became a member of the then Taluk Development Board. His association with M.D. Nanjundaswamy, the pioneer of farmers' movement in Karnataka and founder of the Karnataka Rajya Raitha Sangha, grew during these years which he has acknowledged as a significant influence in his politics. Mr. Siddaramaiah fought the Lok Sabha election in 1980, but lost. He contested the Assembly election next in 1983 from Chamundeshwari seat (in Mysuru district) as a candidate of the Lok Dal and won.

As a legislator who had supported the Ramakrishna Hegde-led Janata Party government then, he was made chairman of Kannada Kavalu Samiti (Kannada Watchdog Committee). A linguistic and regional pride slant in his style of politics, sown in this phase, has remained throughout his career, with his last tenure as Chief Minister being headlined by moves such as the demand for an official State flag. In a career spanning over four decades marked by several electoral gains and losses, Mr. Siddaramaiah has been associated with the Janata Party, the undivided Janata Dal, the Janata Dal(S) and eventually the Congress since 2006.

Shift to the Congress

What led to Mr. Siddaramaiah's shift to the Congress was the famous falling out with JD(S) patriarch H.D. Deve Gowda when he felt that he was deliberately denied a chance to be the Chief Minister in the Congress-JD(S) government in 2004, when the late Dharam Singh was picked for the post. His decision to organise and be part of an AHINDA (Kannada acronym for minorities, backward classes and Dalits, fashioned by his ideological predecessor the late D. Devaraj Urs) meet at Hubballi was deemed as an anti-party activity and he was expelled from the JD(S). Though there was a brief period when it was believed that he would float a regional party, Mr. Siddaramaiah eventually joined the Congress in the presence of the then Congress president Sonia Gandhi in a huge rally in 2006. The old antagonism with the Gowda family has refused to entirely go way, and this is one of the reasons why he was partially blamed for the fall of the Congress-JD(S) coalition government formed after the 2018 Assembly election.

ILLUSTRATION: R. RAJESH



Mr. Siddaramaiah has often said it was the Congress's commitment to secularism that was a key deciding factor in his choice. True to this, Mr. Siddaramaiah has remained a trenchant critic of Hindutva politics and has never minced words even when the BJP has always attempted to paint him as "anti-Hindu". Faith in welfarism and secularism have remained constants in Mr. Siddaramaiah's long political career.

Now, as he takes charge again, Mr. Siddaramaiah is not the same man who as Leader of the Opposition in 2010 led a historic 320-km Ballari Padayatra from Bengaluru to Ballari against illegal mining activities of Gali Janardhan Reddy and his associates. The money from these activities, it is alleged, had funded the first "Operation Kamala" (engineered defections to the BJP) in 2008. This Padayatra is credited to be among the factors that galvanised the party ahead of the 2013 election, which the Congress won against a divided BJP (with B.S. Yediyurappa having then formed the Karnataka Janata Paksha) and led to Mr. Siddaramaiah occupying the top post for the first time.

Most important, Mr. Siddaramaiah, in his second term, is not unencumbered like he was in the first one. Back then, with KPCC president G. Parmeshwar having lost the election, he was the singular choice for the Chief Minister's post. This time, he had to face a bitter contest from KPCC president D.K. Shivakumar for the top post. It took four days of talks before Mr. Shivakumar settled for the post of Deputy CM after making it amply clear that he had made the "sacrifice" in the party's interest as a loyalist. The suggestion by default is that Mr. Siddaramaiah continues to be an "outsider" and has a tendency to prioritise self over the party, two tags he has not been able to shake off even after nearly two decades of association with the grand old party.

Tug-of-war

The tug-of-war with Mr. Shivakumar also should be a warning sign to the newly sworn-in Chief Minister that this term will require him to be far more careful and accommodative in his political manoeuvres. The 135-seat-strong victory also means that a rainbow social coalition has voted the party to power and that all those who have contributed to the victory will now want a share of the power pie. He will have to be particularly wary of a possible consolidation of upper castes from within and outside his party (of Lingayat, Vokkaliga and Brahmin), who have always perceived Mr. Siddaramaiah as antagonistic to them in the context of his AHINDA politics.

Above all else, Mr. Siddaramaiah, as the head of the government, has to deliver on the promises made ahead of the elections. The promised social welfare "guarantees" of the Congress manifesto will require financial jugglery which he may be able to pull off given his acumen and experience of presenting a record 13 State Budgets. Tougher challenges may be in setting right the mess that has been made of the reservation matrix by the previous government, amid possible opposition from dominant caste groups, and delivering on the promise of governance free of corruption (or more practically, of scaled-down corruption), considering that an important part of the Congress campaign was around the "40% sarkara" allegations against the BJP government.

THE GIST

- Siddaramaiah's political life began in the 1970s when Socialism was a big influence in Karnataka; he became a member of the then Taluk Development Board in 1978
- He fought Lok Sabha elections in 1980, but lost; he contested Assembly elections next in 1983 from Chamundeshwari seat (in Mysuru district) as a candidate of the Lok Dal and won
- Siddaramaiah has been associated with Janata Party, undivided Janata Dal, Janata Dal (Secular) and eventually the Congress since 2006. He led the Congress to victory in the 2013 elections and became the Chief Minister

Connecting continents

North-South Transport Corridor

The ambitious 7,200-km-long trade corridor seeks to link Russia's Baltic Sea coast to India's western ports in the Arabian Sea through Azerbaijan and Iran

Stanly Johny

It was first mooted in 2000. The idea was to build a transport corridor linking Russia's Baltic Sea coast to India's western ports in the Arabian Sea via Iran. Russia, India and Iran signed preliminary agreements to develop the 7,200-km-long International North-South Transport Corridor (NSTC) in 2002. Three years later, Azerbaijan signed up for the project. This agreement was eventually ratified by 13 countries – India, Russia, Iran, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Armenia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Oman, Tajikistan, Turkey and Ukraine.

But despite its perceived potential and the keenness shown by key powers, there was little progress on the project's implementation for years. One of the reasons was the western sanctions on Iran over its nuclear programme. But Russia's February 2022 invasion of Ukraine, after which it was sanctioned by the West, seems to have brought Moscow and Tehran closer, giving a fresh impetus to the NSTC.

In February this year, President Vladimir Putin said in his State of the Nation address that Russia was developing the NSTC, which would open up new routes for trade with India, Iran, Pakistan as well as Gulf countries. Last week, Mr. Putin and his Iranian counterpart Ebrahim Raisi virtually participated in a ceremony where both countries signed an agreement to develop the 162-km Rasht-Astara railway, a critical link in the NSTC.

According to the original plan, the corridor has several branches. On the western side of the Caspian Sea, it would link Russia to Iran through Azerbaijan. The eastern branch runs along the eastern coast of the Caspian Sea and links the main corridor to different road and rail networks of Central Asian countries such as Turkmenistan and Kazakhstan.

According to a report by the Federation of Freight Forwarders' Associations in India, the corridor is 30% cheaper and 40% shorter than the current traditional route. The traditional route to move goods from Russia or Europe to India is through the Suez Canal – the Baltic Sea-North Sea-Mediterranean-Arabian Sea route. Mr. Putin calls the NSTC an alternative to the Suez Canal.

The Rasht-Astara link

In the western branch, which is the faster route, the Rasht-Astara railway would link Iranian railways up with Azerbaijan's railways, opening a direct corridor from St. Petersburg to Bandar Abbas on the Gulf, Iran's busiest port. According to the agreement signed last week, Russia will invest $1.73 billion on the construction of the railway, while Iran will spend roughly $5 billion and is looking for foreign investors.

For India, a country that's dependent on imports for about 80% of its energy requirements, this corridor would open fresh avenues for energy security. India has substantially increased its energy ties with Russia over the past year.

The corridor can also boost trade between India and Central Asia. India is now asking for the Chabahar, the Iranian port it is developing, to be connected to the corridor.

While it has great potential on paper, the project still faces a lot of challenges. Construction of the Rasht-Astara railway, along the Caspian Sea, has been lagging for years because of both financial and practical reasons. The link will have 22 tunnels and 15 special bridges and there is no guarantee that it will be finished as per schedule in 48 months.

The Russian rail gauge, which is used in former Soviet republics as well, is different from that of Iran. Moreover, there are geopolitical problems. Both Russia and Iran would find it difficult to raise enough funds to finance the project as they are grappling with sanctions, while third parties remain reluctant to make investments in Iran.

And Iran's relationship with Azerbaijan remains tense. Baku has repeatedly accused Iran of interference in its internal matters, and the war between Azerbaijan and Armenia has complicated the geopolitics of the Caucasus.

However, despite the challenges, the Russians and the Iranians seem determined to go ahead as they see the corridor as a potential game changer in their plans for Eurasian economic integration.

Twitter's 'velvet hammer'

Linda Yaccarino

While the advertising veteran focuses on getting Twitter back its lost ad revenue, any real change to the platform depends on how much control Elon Musk cedes to the new CEO

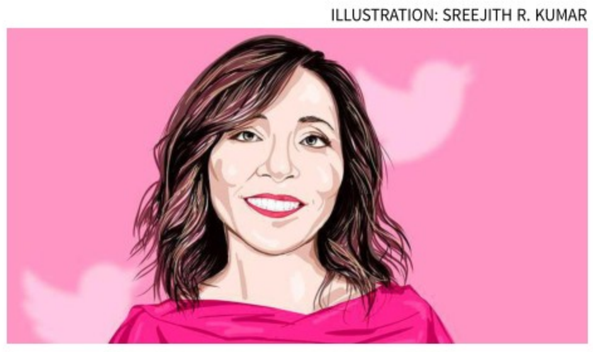
Diksha Munjal

"Many of you in this room know me and you know I pride myself on my work ethic, but buddy, I met my match," the head of advertising at media and entertainment giant NBCUniversal at the time, Linda Yaccarino, said at a marketing conference in April, referring to Twitter owner Elon Musk while interviewing the billionaire at the event. Little did Silicon Valley know then that the 60-year-old would become Mr. Musk's pick to take over as the CEO of Twitter, the microblogging platform he acquired in a $44 billion deal last year.

In a room full of advertisers and marketers with a visibly awkward Mr. Musk, Ms. Yaccarino said that though the man needed no introduction, the conference was, in a way, his introduction to the advertising community, influential players who had pulled out their ads from Twitter after its turbulent takeover. After a month, the writing on the wall seemed evident as Mr. Musk decided to step aside from the CEO's position to make way for his interviewer, hoping she could get back the lost advertisement revenue, and steer along with him, Twitter 2.0.

Ms. Yaccarino, born into an Italian-American Catholic family, studied liberal arts and telecommunications, graduating from the Pennsylvania State University in 1985. She spent more than a decade at the ComCast-owned media giant NBCUniversal before stepping down recently from her last role as the global head of advertising strategy across television and digital properties. Incidentally, NBCU is also where she began her career as an intern. Before her job as the advertising chief, she spent about two decades in various roles at Turner Entertainment, which is now owned by Warner Bros Discovery.

ILLUSTRATION: SREEJITH R. KUMAR



Rising through the ranks of the media industry over the decades and becoming a power broker, she is now famously known in advertising circles as the 'Velvet Hammer', for her affable but assertive style of negotiation in consensus-building and cracking deals. At NBCU, as her LinkedIn profile says, she oversaw a team of 2,000 workers which was responsible for generating over $100 billion in ad sales.

She is known for playing a transformational role in the ad industry, pushing it for changes on several fronts, including advocating for relying less heavily on Nielsen ratings for audience measurement and introducing a digital platform called One Platform that makes it easier to buy ads across a variety of different media.

Troubled waters

Liberal Twitter users worry about Ms. Yaccarino's conservative leanings; some went to point out how she had "liked" tweets by Florida Governor and Republican Ron DeSantis. She also served a two-year term in the Donald Trump administration on his Council on Sports, Fitness, and Nutrition. Right-leaning followers of Mr. Musk, on the other hand, have also expressed unease as Ms. Yaccarino partnered with President Joe Biden in 2021 to create a coronavirus vaccine campaign featuring Pope Francis.

The media industry insider is stepping into her role at Twitter at a time when the company is short of three-quarters of its workforce, thanks to Mr. Musk's layoff-spree, and when the platform's popularity has been affected due to the sweeping changes introduced by the Tesla owner. Users have noted the change in the platform's atmosphere owing to Mr. Musk's absolutist free speech agenda, while Twitter has also faced outages. Most significantly, the company has seen its ad sales revenue fall from $5 billion to $2.5 billion since last year.

While some analysts have called Ms. Yaccarino a "home-run hire", expressing confidence in that she would be able to bring back the lost revenue, others have pointed out that bringing ads back won't solve all of post-Musk Twitter's problems, unless the leadership addresses the reason why advertisers took away their business in the first place.

However, whether she is able to restore balance at the currently limping microblogging site and bring Twitter back to its previous version, industry watchers say, all depends on how much control Mr. Musk is ready to cede.

INBRIEF

'Engineering exports to Russia surged 11-fold to $133.6 million'

Exports of engineering goods to Russia jumped 11-fold year-on-year in April to $133.6 million while the U.S. and China continued to soften, said the Engineering Export Promotion Council of India. Engineering exports continued to slide in 2023-24 as April 2023 saw a 7.15% y-o-y drop to $8.99 billion. Council chairman Arun Kumar Garodia attributed the slide to demand slowdown in almost all regions barring Latin America, WANA, parts of Europe and Oceania. PTI

Elgi Equipments to sharpen focus on India market: MD

Elgi Equipments will take necessary steps to sharpen its focus on the India market, Managing Director Jairam Varadaraj said. Almost 40% of Elgi's business came from India and the balance from rest of the world. "The home market is the base and it has to be periodically sharpened and nurtured," Mr. Varadaraj said. Consolidated PAT for the financial year ended March 31 more than doubled to ₹370.81 crore. Consolidated sales rose to ₹3,041 crore from ₹2,525 crore in FY22.

India's JSW Steel sees slim growth in 2024 exports

India's JSW Steel Ltd. expects only a marginal improvement in its exports in the financial year that began in April due to uncertain global conditions, a top company executive said. The country's largest steelmaker by capacity had reported a contraction in core profit margins during the fourth quarter as expenses and weak steel prices weighed. The company expects to export 3-3.5 million tonnes during the current financial year against 2.8 million tonnes a year earlier. "The growth, which we are assuming this year, is very marginal," Jayant Acharya, JMD and CEO, said in an interview. REUTERS

'No immunity for President as contract party'

SC rules government cannot claim immunity from application of law to a contract merely because President is one party; judgment comes on a petition filed by Austrian pistol maker Glock Asia-Pacific against the Union over the appointment of an arbitrator to a dispute regarding a tender

Vikas Dhoot
Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court has held that the government cannot claim immunity from the application of law to a contract merely because one of the parties to it is the President of India.

"We are of the clear opinion that a contract entered into in the name of the President of India, cannot and will not create an immunity against the application of any statutory prescription imposing conditions on parties to an agreement, when the government chooses to enter into a contract," a Bench of Chief Justice of India and Justice P.S. Narasimha held in a recent judgment.

Moreover, when tasked with the job to find an arbitrator, the state should ensure that the person it chooses is an "impartial and independent" adjudicator with no professional ties to it, past or present.

The judgment came in a petition filed by pistol maker Glock Asia- Pacific Limited against the Union regarding the appointment of an arbitrator to a dispute regarding a tender.

Equal before law

Article 299 (contracts made by Union or State in the name of President or Governor) does not give government power to break law: SC

- Bench of CJI, Justice P.S. Narasimha pass order on plea over appointment of arbitrator
- Glock had challenged clause enabling Home Secretary to appoint a Law Ministry officer as sole arbitrator
- Clause a clear violation of Section 12(5) of Arbitration Act: Justice Narasimha

Glock had appealed against an arbitration clause in the agreement which enabled the Home Secretary to appoint an officer in the Ministry of Law to be the sole arbitrator.

Justice Narasimha, who authored the judgment, said the clause was a clear violation of Section 12(5) of the Arbitration Act.

The provision mandates that any person with prior or existing relationship with any of the parties to the arbitration in the capacity of an employee, consultant, advisor or any other past or present business relationship, would be ineligible to be appointed as arbitrator.

Additional Solicitor General Aishwarya Bhati contended that the party to the contract with Glock was none other than the President of India, and this was a "clear point of distinction" from other cases.

On the point that a contract entered into in the name of the President enjoys immunity, the Court said Article 299 (contracts made by the Union or State in the name of the President or Governor) of the Constitution does not give the government power to break the statutory law.

SEBI moots mechanism for AMCs to deter possible market abuse, fraud

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Capital markets regulator SEBI on Saturday proposed that asset management companies (AMCs) set up surveillance and internal control systems for the deterrence of possible market abuse and fraudulent transactions.

It further suggested that senior management of AMCs should be responsible to ensure that an institutional mechanism is put in place to detect and report possible misconduct by its employees, dealers, stock brokers or any other connected entities.

Further, AMCs should have appropriate escalation and reporting mechanism for possible market abuse and fraudulent transactions in securities related to the AMCs' transactions, SEBI said in its consultation paper.

This comes in the wake of SEBI passing orders in two instances of front-running pertaining to Axis AMC and Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC).

In the Axis AMC case, broker-dealers, certain employees and connected entities were found to have front-run the trades of the AMC and in the case of LIC, an employee of a listed insurance company was observed to be front-running the trades of the company.

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has sought comments from the public by June 3.

In its draft paper, the regulator proposed that AMCs should put in place robust surveillance systems and internal controls to deter possible misconduct by employees or other entities that may have information relating to fund management and/or investments of mutual fund schemes.

AMCs should customise their surveillance systems and internal control procedures including alert types, parameters and thresholds based on back testing of historical data to ensure their effectiveness.

System-driven alerts

In order to determine the likelihood of misconduct, AMCs shall process system-driven alerts in conjunction with soft alerts such as lifestyle checks, recording of communication such as recorded e-mails, chats and CCTV footage etc.

With regard to taking action in case of possible misconduct, SEBI suggested that AMCs should have a documented policy on types of actions to be taken based on likelihood of wrongdoing and other relevant factors.

CUMI says Russian arm VAW, directors not facing sanctions

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Unit's top line and net profit had grown in double digits and VAW continued to be debt free

The Russian subsidiary of Carborundum Universal Ltd. (CUMI), Volzhsky Abrasive Works (VAW), nor its directors or employees are under any sanctions, CUMI's director finance and strategy Sridharan Rangarajan has said.

"We started the year in February 2022 with a conflict between Russia and Ukraine and economic sanctions were imposed on large parts of Russian economy, businesses, banks, and individuals," he noted during a recent earnings call.

Asserting that the war had not impacted VAW much, he said the team had managed risk well and taken suitable actions to mitigate them.

Suitable logistics arrangements to Europe, India, and other geographies, complying with all regulations had been made and there had been no impact on operations, Mr. Rangarajan said.

The unit's top line and net profit had grown in double digits and VAW continued to be debt free and having enough liquidity to manage the business.

Indian Bank eyes sevenfold growth in digital business

N. Anand
CHENNAI

S. L. Jain

Indian Bank is leveraging its new digital platform to achieve sevenfold growth in digital business in FY24, said MD & CEO S.L. Jain.

"By leveraging the digital platform, we aim at achieving a horizontal and vertical spread across liability, Retail, Agriculture and MSME (RAM) sector and third-party products," he said in an interview.

So far, the bank had rolled out more than 30 'digital journeys' across liabilities, RAM and third-party products with improved turnaround time.

Digital channel

The public sector lender is also developing a digital banking omni-channel platform to provide seamless user experience across channels including mobile banking and tab banking.

He also said the bank planned to double mobile user base to 2.44 crore in FY24 and internet banking users from the current 1.50 crore. "Our platform witnesses 1.25 crore UPI financial transactions per day and 22 crore mobile transactions per month," he added. "During Q4 of FY23, about 85% of the total transactions were through digital channels."

Going forward, the digital journeys would gradually be extended to new customers as well as pensioners, Mr. Jain said.

KKR-backed JB Pharma scouts for acquisitions

Lalatendu Mishra
MUMBAI

JB Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals Ltd. (JB Pharma), majority owned by private equity firm KKR, is scouting for more acquisitions to broaden its offerings.

JB Pharma had already invested about $200 million in four acquisitions in the last 15 months.

"We are continuously looking for acquisitions," said Nikhil Chopra, CEO & Wholetime Director.

"There must be strategic fit and assured returns."

Professionals open to learning new skills will gain: LinkedIn

Priorities of Indian professionals have shifted primarily towards work-life balance, flexibility, says India Country Manager of the California-based professional network and employment platform

INTERVIEW

Ashutosh Gupta

Mini Tejaswi

LinkedIn's India business has almost quadrupled in size over the last five years, says Ashutosh Gupta, India Country Manager of the California-based professional network and employment platform.

How has LinkedIn's growth in India been?

We launched in India in December 2009, and the country is our second-most prominent member base with 105 million, after the U.S. with 202 million. As we set out to welcome the next 100 million members in India, our focus is on a skills-first economy.

What helped you attract more than 100 million Indian professionals to the platform?

Our vision of providing economic opportunity to every workforce member has kept our platform agile and always innovating for the needs and requirements of professionals and recruiters. We launched the Hindi language globally in December 2021 to build a more inclusive community on the platform.

How much do you earn from recruitment?

Today, over 7,20,000 organisations in more than 230 countries use LinkedIn Talent Solutions to hire talent. In Q4 FY22, LinkedIn Talent Solutions surpassed $6 billion in revenue over the past 12 months globally, up 39% year-over-year.

What new professional trends do you see here?

The priorities of Indian professionals have shifted primarily towards work-life balance, flexibility, and upskilling. The future of work will be about potential over pedigree. Professionals, proactive in their approach to learning new skills, be it AI or coding, stand to gain amid this great resetting of the workplace.

(For full interview visit https://bit.ly/3BJuSgp)

OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER PWD ZONE TONK
No.500-509 Date:- 15/05/2023

Corrigendum in Short Term NIT No. 03/PMGSY/2023-24

In the Short Term Tender Notice number 03/PMGSY/2023-24 Published by this office letter Number 341-350 dated 03-05-2023 the tender dates for all works are amended as follows:-

S. No.	Key Activities	In Place of	To be Read
1	Tender documents download/ upload dates	05-05-2023 9.30 AM to 15-05-2023 12.00 Noon	05-05-2023 9.30 AM to 23-05-2023 12.00 Noon
2	Online tender opening Date	15-05-2023 03.00 PM	23-05-2023 03.00 PM
3	Online tender fee/ Date of Physical Sumission of Documents	15-05-2023 12.00 PM	23-05-2023 12.00 PM

Other Conditions of the tender will remain unchanged

NIB code:- PWD2324A0362, PWD2324WLOB01578, PWD2324WSOB01580, PWD2324WLOB01585, PWD2324WLOB01589, PWD2324WSOB01594, PWD2324WSOB01597, PWD2324WSOB01602, PWD2324WLOB01604, PWD2324WLOB01608, PWD2324WSOB01610

(R.S.Bairwa)
Additional Chief Engineer
PWD Zone-Tonk
DIPR/C/7249

SIDDHA REGIONAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE
(CCRS, Ministry of Ayush, GoI)
Kuyavarpalayam, Puducherry – 605013.
Email: recruitments.srripdy@gmail.com Phone: 0413 – 2245072

Advt. No.: 01/2023 Date : 21.05.2023

VIRTUAL / PERSONAL INTERVIEW

Applications are invited for the selection of **Research Associate (Siddha) I – One post** and **SRF (Biochemistry/ Biotechnology)- One post** for various IMR projects at Siddha Regional Research Institute, Puducherry through Personal/ Virtual interview. Interested candidates may send their applications in the prescribed format latest by **12.06.2023, 5.00 pm.** Details of essential qualifications, project details and other eligibility criteria are available at Central Council for Research in Siddha website **www.siddhacouncil.com.** The date of interview will be notified in the CCRS Website later.

Assistant Director (S) S III & I/c

कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता, जन स्वा. अभि. विभाग, जयपुर क्षेत्र-द्वितीय, गांधी नगर, जयपुर
ई-मेल: ace.region2jaipur@yahoo.com, फोन नं.: 0141-2702700
क्रमांक: अ.मु.अ.क्षे-2/2023-24/1916-943 दिनांक: 12.05.2023

निविदा सूचना

राजस्थान के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से "Replacement of Old Polluted Pipelines and Service Connections of Brampuri Area under Jurisdiction of City Div-III (North) Jaipur" कार्य हेतु जन स्वास्थ्य अभियांत्रिकी विभाग एवं राज्य सरकार/ केन्द्र सरकार के अधिकृत संगठनों/ केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग/ डाक एवं दूरसंचार विभाग/ रेलवे इत्यादि में उपयुक्त श्रेणी में पंजीकृत संवेदकों से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ई-प्रोक्यूरमेंट प्रक्रिया द्वारा निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती है। विस्तृत निविदा एवं निविदा प्रपत्र www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in एवं www.eproc.rajasthan. gov.in पर उपलब्ध है।

क्रम संख्या	एन.आई.बी.	यू.बी.एन. कोड	निविदा संख्या
1.	PHE2324A0913	PHE2324WLOB02072	23/2023-24

डीआईपीआर/सी/7194/2023

(रमेश चन्द मीना), अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता, जन स्वा. अभि. विभाग जयपुर क्षेत्र-द्वितिय, जयपुर

ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER PHED NCR REGION ALWAR
Manu Marg Alwar (Raj.) E-Mail-ace.alw.phed@rajasthan.gov.in
No-730-746 Date- 05-05-2023

NOTICE INVITING BID (Nit No. 02/2023-24)

Bids for Work of construction of Sources, rising main pipelines, CWR, OHSR, GLSR, Pump house, internal village distribution pipeline and FHTC including one year Defect Liability period of Village Garhi Sawairam under Sub division Reni under JJM in the jurisdiction of PHED Division Rajgarh (Alwar) are invited from interested bidders upto 05:00 PM on Date 04.06.2023. Other particulars of the Bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.raj.nic.in) of the state and https://phedwater.rajasthan.gov. in departmental website.

UBN:- PHE2324WSOB01708

DIPR/C/6901 Additional Chief Engineer

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR EMPOWERMENT OF PERSONS WITH MULTIPLE DISABILITIES (DIVYANGJAN) (NIEPMD)(D)
(Dept. of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Govt. of India)
Muttukadu, East Coast Road, Kovalam (P.O), Chennai - 603 112. Tamil Nadu – India.
Phone: 044 –27472104, 27472113, 27472423, 27472046, Toll Free No: 18004250345
www.niepmd.tn.nic.in E-mail: niepmd@gmail.com, niepmdhrd@gmail.com

ADMISSION NOTICE- 2023-24

	Course & Duration	Last Date for Receipt of Application
1	**Certificate Course in Care Giving** (Primary) **(3 Months)**	**31.08.2023**
2	**Certificate Course in Care Giving** (Advanced) **(6 Months)**	
3	**Certificate Course in Care Giving (RCI) (10 Months)**	
4	**D.Ed. Special Education in** Multiple Disabilities **(2 Years)**	Will be announced by the RCI.
5	**Bachelors in Audiology and Speech Language Pathology** (B.ASLP) **(4 Years)**	**15.06.2023**
6	**Bachelors of Physiotherapy** (BPT) **(4½ Years)**	Admission through CET-2023, please visit http://niohkol.nic.in or State Selection Committee, DME, Govt. of India
7	**Bachelors of Occupational Therapy** (BOT) **(4½ Years)**	
8	**Bachelors in Prosthetics & Orthotics** (BPO) **(4½ Years)**	Admission through CET-2023, please visit http://niohkol.nic.in
9	**B.Ed. Special Education in** (Multiple Disabilities) **(2 Years)**	**31.07.2023**
10	**M.Ed. Special Education in** (Multiple Disabilities) **(2 Years)**	**25.08.2023**
11	**Post Graduate Diploma in Early Intervention - PGDEI (1 Year)**	**14.07.2023**
12	**M.Phil - Clinical Psychology (2 Years)**	**14.07.2023**

Note: No Application Fee for PwDs. SC/ST/PwD Scholarships as per TN Govt./State Govt./National Scholarship Portal Schemes are applicable. For details on application process: eligibility, norms, guidelines and curriculum refer to the prospectus in **www.niepmd.tn.nic.in**

Sd/-
Director

Office of The Additional Chief Engineer, PHED, Region-Kota

Notice Inviting Bid

Bids for water supply works are invited from interested bidders upto 05-06-2023 12:30 Hours. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the http://www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in and http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in website detail are following :-

NIT No.	Name of work	Estimated Cost	Date & Time for online submission of tender
10/23-24	Work of "Rehabilitation of water supply system of Indra Vihar & Rajiv Gandhi Nagar of Kota City, Under Smart city Mission." UBN No. PHE2324WLOBO2031	Rs. 2188.15 Lakh	13-05-2023 from 10:00 Hrs upto 05-06-2023 (upto 12:30 Hrs)

(Mahesh Jangid)
Additional Chief Engineer
PHED, Region, Kota
DIPR/C/7155

Office of the Chief Engineer (East) cum Addl. Secretary, C.A.D., Jaipur
Phone 0141-2709487, Email:- cecadjaipur@rajasthan.gov.in
No. F-198/CE/(E)CAD/T/NIT/203-24/555 Date :- 11/05/23

E-Tender notice No. 02/2023-24

On behalf of Governor of Rajasthan E-Tenders are invited from " AA" Class category or equivalent contractors / Firms registered in CAD/Water Resources Department and State Government / Other State Government / Authorized organizations of Central Government / CPWD / Post and telegraph department / Railways etc. for the **8 Nos. of works of Construction of Field Channels in Ganeshganj Lift Scheme of Chambal CAD Kota** amounting to **Rs. 3430.87 Lac**. The tender documents & other details may be downloaded and uploaded from the following websites.

1. http/www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in
2. www.dipronline.org
3. http://www.sppp/raj.nic.in

UBN:-
CKJ2324WSOB00008 CKJ2324WSOB00009 CKJ2324WSOB00010
CKJ2324WSOB00011 CKJ2324WSOB00012 CKJ2324WSOB00013
CKJ2324WSOB00006 CKJ2324WSOB00007

Chief Engineer (East) Cum Additional Secretary C.A.D. Jaipur
DIPR/C/7028

FRENZIED FANDOM

Dhoni fever grips Delhi, fans paint Ferozeshah Kotla yellow

M.S. Dhoni was welcomed by a sea of yellow as fans showed support during his side's game against Delhi Capitals. One struggled to find the handful of fans dressed in blue, the home team's colour. Even the DJ ditched DC's 'Roar Macha' for the CSK song. Similar scenes were seen across venues thorough out the season.

RECORD-BREAKING

Jaiswal becomes uncapped player with most runs in IPL season

Rajasthan Royals batter Yashasvi Jaiswal made history on Friday by becoming an uncapped player with the most runs in a single season of the IPL history. The 21-year-old has scored 625 runs in 14 matches at a strike rate of 163.6, with the best being 124. This record was previously held by Shaun Marsh who scored 616 runs in 2008.

LEADING THE FLOCK

Buttler registers most ducks in single IPL season

Rajasthan Royals' Jos Buttler became the player with the most ducks in a single season of the IPL when he was out for zero on Friday. Others who have four ducks in a single season are Gibbs (Deccan Chargers, 2009), Manhas (PWI, 2011), Pandey (PWI, 2012), Dhawan (Delhi Capitals, 2020), Morgan (KKR, 2021) and Pooran (SRH, 2021).

SECRET TO SUCCESS

Ishant reveals advice received from Bumrah on his T20 game

India pacer Ishant Sharma revealed the piece of advice he received from Jasprit Bumrah in 2018 which helped him improve his T20 game. "He (Bumrah) told me that I have brilliant length but I need to develop a slow seam delivery which would deceive the batter. Thereafter, I worked on delivering the knuckle ball," said Ishant.

Super Kings make the playoffs thrashing Capitals

Chasing CSK's 223 for three, the Capitals batting proved a let-down once again this season and finished at a distant 146 for nine despite a good hand from Warner

IPL-16

Rakesh Rao
NEW DELHI

The script that unfolded at the Ferozeshah Kotla was in keeping with the popular sentiments of thousands of spectators donning the Dhoni jersey.

Unchallenged, Chennai Super Kings cruised to a dominating 77-run victory over an unsteady Delhi Capitals. Indeed, the one-sided nature of the contest was in keeping with the performances of these teams in the league phase.

Super Kings finished its league engagements on 17 points, behind leader Gujarat Titans and booked a place in the playoffs. It significantly improved its Net Run Rate (NRR) from +0.381 to +0.652.

On the field, chasing Super Kings' 223 for three, Capitals' batting proved a let-down once again this season and finished at a distant 146 for nine.

For one last time, the Capitals innings revolved around skipper David Warner. The left-handed opener scored a 58-ball 86 after witnessing the fall of three wickets in the first five overs and three more before departing in the 19th over. All Super Kings bowlers were among the wickets, with Deepak Chahar scalping three.

After Super Kings opted to bat during the afternoon when the temperature touched 42°C, inform openers Devon Conway and Player-of-the-Match Ruturaj Gaikwad turned on the heat further. Keeping a blistering pace, the duo raised 141 runs with a strike-rate of over 150.

Delhi's attack appeared most ordinary as 52 runs came in the first six overs, another 96 followed in the next eight before the final flourish produced 75 runs off the last five.

Smash hit: Openers Ruturaj and Conway gave Chennai Super Kings a brilliant start yet again. R.V. MOORTHY

Titans-Super Kings in Q1
Hardik's Titans and Dhoni's Super Kings will meet in Qualifier 1 in Chennai on May 23 after finishing first and second respectively in the league stage

Conway produced some classy batting, timing his strokes to perfection. In comparison, Gaikwad used more power, particularly to send the ball over the midwicket boundary. Both batters hit some glorious drives and never allowed the bowlers to make a comeback.

Raining sixes

In the 12th over, Kuldeep Yadav went for 20 runs, including a hat-trick of sixes from Gaikwad. Three overs later, Lalit Yadav was hit for 19 runs.

Dube's three sixes and Jadeja's lone six and three fours dotted their cameos.

Dhoni remained unbeaten in what could well be his last innings at this historic venue.

SCOREBOARD

CHENNAI SUPER KINGS
Ruturaj Gaikwad c Rossouw b Sakariya 79 *(50b, 3x4, 7x6)*, Devon Conway c Aman b Nortje 87 *(52b, 11x4, 3x6)*, Shivam Dube c Lalit b Khaleel 22 *(9b, 3x6)*, M.S. Dhoni (not out) 5 *(4b)*, Ravindra Jadeja (not out) 20 *(7b, 3x4, 1x6)*; Extras (lb-1, w-7, nb-2): 10; Total (for three wkts. in 20 overs): 223.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-141 (Ruturaj, 14.3 overs), 2-195 (Dube, 17.6), 3-195 (Conway, 18.2).

CAPITALS BOWLING
Khaleel 4-0-45-1, Lalit 2-0-32-0, Axar 3-0-32-0, Nortje 4-0-43-1, Sakariya 4-0-36-1, Kuldeep 3-0-34-0.

DELHI CAPITALS
Prithvi Shaw **(Impact Player in place of Khaleel)** c Rayudu b Deshpande 5 *(7b, 1x4)*, David Warner c Ruturaj b Pathirana 86 *(58b, 7x4, 5x6)*, Phil Salt c Rahane b Deepak Chahar 3 *(6b)*, Rilee Rossouw b Deepak Chahar 0 *(1b)*, Yash Dhull c Deshpande b Jadeja 13 *(15b, 1x4)*, Axar Patel c Ruturaj b Deepak Chahar 15 *(8b, 1x4, 1x6)*, Aman Khan c Moeen b Pathirana 7 *(9b, 1x4)*, Lalit Yadav c Moeen b Theekshana 6 *(12b)*, Anrich Nortje (not out) 0 *(1b)*, Kuldeep Yadav lbw b Theekshana 0 *(1b)*, Chetan Sakariya (not out) 0 *(2b)*; Extras (lb-3, w-8): 11; Total (for nine wkts. in 20 overs): 146.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-5 (Shaw, 1.3), 2-26 (Salt, 4.4), 3-26 (Rossouw, 4.5), 4-75 (Dhull, 10.5), 5-109 (Axar, 13.3), 6-131 (Aman, 16.1), 7-144 (Warner, 18.3), 8-146 (Lalit, 19.3), 9-146 (Kuldeep, 19.4).

SUPER KINGS BOWLING
Deepak Chahar 4-0-22-3, Deshpande 4-0-26-1, Theekshana 4-1-23-2, Jadeja 4-0-50-1, Pathirana **(Impact Player in place of Dube)** 4-0-22-2.

Toss: CSK.
PoM: Ruturaj.
Super Kings won by 77 runs.

Pooran dazzles, but LSG just about survives Rinku's heroics to make playoffs with exciting one-run win

Y.B. Sarangi
KOLKATA

Sporting green-and-maroon, Lucknow Super Giants paid a fitting tribute to ISL champion Mohun Bagan by recording a thrilling one-run win over Kolkata Knight Riders and qualified for the Indian Premier League playoffs with 17 points at the Eden Gardens here on Saturday.

Inserted, LSG rode on Nicholas Pooran's aggressive half-century to post a challenging 176 for eight and then benefited from its spinners' parsimony to stop KKR at 175 for seven even as Rinku Singh's heroic knock went in vain.

KKR pacers Harshit Rana and Vaibhav Arora hit good areas to keep LSG in check. But Prerak Mankad helped LSG reach 54 for one after the PowerPlay.

The script changed as Vaibhav scalped Mankad and the dangerous Marcus Stonis, who gloved a rising delivery, in the seventh over.

Sunil Narine dismissed Krunal Pandya and Varun Chakravarthy claimed an off-colour Quinton de Kock in consecutive overs to put LSG in trouble at 73 for five.

However, Pooran (58, 30b, 4x4, 5x6) got good support from Ayush Badoni. The duo added 74 runs in 47 balls to revive LSG's innings.

Pooran impressed with two straight sixes off Varun and two more over point before being held at third-man in the penultimate over bowled by Shardul. LSG rattled 54 in the last four.

In reply, openers Venkatesh Iyer (24, 15b, 3x4, 1x6) and Jason Roy (45, 28b, 7x4, 1x6) made a brisk start. KKR, facing the improbable task of overhauling the target in 8.5 overs to qualify, was 61 for one at the end of the PowerPlay.

LSG spinners, who shared four wickets, utilised the turn on offer to apply brakes on KKR. K. Gowtham took Venkatesh's wicket, Ravi Bishnoi accounted for Nitish and Krunal bowled Roy to put the hosts under pressure.

Bishnoi and Yash Thakur captured two wickets apiece but Rinku (67 n.o., 33b, 6x4, 4x6) played another spectacular innings to take it agonisingly close.

SCOREBOARD

LUCKNOW SUPER GIANTS
Karan Sharma c Shardul b Harshit 3 *(5b)*, Quinton de Kock c Russell b Varun 28 *(27b, 2x6)*, Prerak Mankad c Harshit b Arora 26 *(20b, 5x4)*, Marcus Stoinis c Venkatesh b Arora 0 *(2b)*, Krunal Pandya c Rinku b Narine 9 *(8b, 1x6)*, Ayush Badoni c Shardul b Narine 25 *(21b, 2x4, 1x6)*, Nicholas Pooran c Venkatesh b Shardul 58 *(30b, 4x4, 5x6)*, K. Gowtham (not out) 11 *(4b, 1x4, 1x6)*, Ravi Bishnoi b Shardul 2 *(2b)*, Naveen-ul-Haq (not out) 2 *(3b)*; Extras (b-4, lb-1, w-5, nb-2): 12; Total (for eight wkts. in 20 overs): 176.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-14 (Karan, 2.3 overs), 2-55 (Prerak, 6.3), 3-55 (Stoinis, 6.5), 4-71 (Krunal, 9.4), 5-73 (de Kock, 10.1), 6-147 (Badoni, 17.6), 7-159 (Pooran, 18.3), 8-162 (Bishnoi, 18.5).

KNIGHT RIDERS BOWLING
Harshit 3-0-21-1, Arora 4-0-30-2, Varun 4-0-38-1, Nitish 1-0-3-0, Shardul 2-0-27-2, Narine 4-0-28-2, Suyash **(Impact Player in place of Harshit)** 1-0-12-0, Russell 1-0-12-0.

KOLKATA KNIGHT RIDERS
Jason Roy b Krunal 45 *(28b, 7x4, 1x6)*, Venkatesh Iyer c Bishnoi b Gowtham 24 *(15b, 3x4, 1x6)*, Nitish Rana c Krunal b Bishnoi 8 *(10b, 1x4)*, Rahmanullah Gurbaz c Bishnoi b Yash Thakur 10 *(15b)*, Rinku Singh (not out) 67 *(33b, 6x4, 4x6)*, Andre Russell b Bishnoi 7 *(9b, 1x6)*, Shardul Thakur c Prerak b Yash Thakur 3 *(7b)*, Sunil Narine run out 1 *(2b)*, Vaibhav Arora (not out) 1 *(1b)*; Extras (lb-4, w-5): 9; Total (for seven wkts. in 20 overs): 175.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-61 (Venkatesh, 5.5), 2-78 (Nitish, 8.3), 3-82 (Roy, 9.6), 4-108 (Gurbaz, 13.4), 5-120 (Russell, 15.4), 6-134 (Shardul, 17.4), 7-136 (Narine, 17.6).

SUPER GIANTS BOWLING
Mohsin 1-0-15-0, Naveen 4-0-46-0, Krunal 4-0-30-1, Gowtham 4-0-26-1, Bishnoi 4-0-23-2, Yash Thakur **(Impact Player in place of Karan)** 3-0-31-2.

Toss: Knight Riders.
PoM: Pooran.
Super Giants won by one run.

Going berserk: Pooran, top, provided direction to LSG's innings while Rinku almost spoiled the Lucknow side's party with a scintillating onslaught. K.R. DEEPAK

Who will win the race for the final spot in the playoffs?

S. Dipak Ragav

After Chennai Super Kings and Lucknow Super Giants booked their spots in the playoffs on the penultimate day of the league stage, the final day will see Mumbai Indians and Royal Challengers Bangalore battle for the remaining berth. Rajasthan Royals has an outside chance to sneak through.

The scenarios:

1. If Mumbai Indians beats Sunrisers Hyderabad and Royal Challengers Bangalore beats Gujarat Titans, the Net Run Rate (NRR) will determine who goes through as both will be tied on 16 points. RCB has a better NRR now and, more importantly, will know the equation even if MI registers a thumping win.

2: If both MI and RCB lose their final matches, NRR will again come into play as three teams, including Rajasthan Royals, will finish with 14 points. RCB is ahead of RR on NRR while MI, with a negative NRR, will bow out. RCB needs to ensure that even if it loses, its NRR doesn't fall below Royals'.

3: If only one of MI or RCB wins, the winner will progress (16 points).

4: If MI or RCB wins and there is No Result in the other match, the winner will go through. If there is No Result in both games and the teams are tied on 15 points, RCB will make the playoffs on NRR. If MI loses and there is No Result in RCB's game, Faf du Plessis' side will qualify.

Du Plessis or Rohit... who will be beaming after the league stage?

Points table

	M	W	L	NR	PTS	NRR
Gujarat Titans (Q)	13	9	4	0	18	0.835
Chennai Super Kings (Q)	14	8	5	1	17	0.652
Lucknow Super Giants (Q)	14	8	5	1	17	0.284
Royal Challengers	13	7	6	0	14	0.180
Rajasthan Royals	14	7	7	0	14	0.148
Mumbai Indians	13	7	6	0	14	-0.128
Kolkata Knight Riders (E)	14	6	8	0	12	-0.239
Punjab Kings (E)	14	6	8	0	12	-0.304
Delhi Capitals (E)	14	5	9	0	10	-0.808
Sunrisers Hyderabad (E)	13	4	9	0	8	-0.558

*After the KKR-LSG match on May 20 **Q:** Qualified; **E:** Eliminated

THE HINDU GROUP
THE GAME CHANGER QUIZ

1. Who was known as the Flying Sikh, who put India on the world map in track and field.
2. Who was the first Indian tennis player to win a senior Grand Slam event. (clue: mixed doubles 1997)
3. Which Indian footballer has scored the most goals for the Indian national team?

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INBRIEF

Parul Chaudhary wins women's 3000m steeplechase

India's Parul Chaudhary won the women's 3000m steeplechase event at the Track Night NYC here for her first title of the season. The 28-year-old Chaudhary, who is currently training in the USA, won the race with a time of 9:41.88, which is more than three seconds outside her personal best of 9:38.09 she had clocked during the World Championships last year. Lili Das was third in women's 1500m in 4:15.23 in the meet, at the World Athletics Continental Tour bronze level event at Icahn Stadium on Friday.

Rybakina takes on Kalinina in Italian Open final

Wimbledon champion Elena Rybakina of Kazakhstan fought from 1-4 down in the second set to overhaul Jelena Ostapenko on Friday and reach the final of the Italian Open. The 6-2, 6-4 win sent Rybakina into a bid for the trophy against Anhelina Kalinina of Ukraine, who beat Russia's Veronika Kudermetova 7-5, 5-7, 6-2.

Indian women lose to Australia in second Test

India put up a spirited performance before going down fighting 2-3 to Australia in the second women's hockey Test in Adelaide on Saturday. Tatum Stewart (12, 45) and Pippa Morgan (38) scored for for the hosts, while Sangita Kumari (13) and Gurjit Kaur (17) reduced the margin. World No. 3 Australia has taken an unassailable 2-0 lead in the three-match series.

Former Australia Test cricket captain Booth passes away

Former Australia Test captain Brian Booth has died aged 89, Cricket Australia said on Saturday. The middle-order batter played 29 Tests for Australia between 1961 and 1966, including twice as captain during the 1965-66 Ashes when regular skipper Bob Simpson was absent. He scored 1,773 runs, including five centuries, at an average of 42.21. Booth also played hockey and represented Australia at the 1956 Melbourne Olympic Games.

LIVE TELECAST

NBA: MTV, Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 6 a.m.
Bengaluru Marathon: Sony Sports Ten 1 (SD & HD) & LIV, 7 a.m.
Badminton: Sudirman Cup: (final), Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 11.30 a.m.
IPL: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 3.30 & 7.30 p.m.
Premier League: SS Select 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 6, 6.30 & 8.30 p.m.
Bundesliga: Sony Sports Ten 2 (SD & HD) & LIV, 7 & 9 p.m.

Rain threat looms large

TCS 10K MARATHON

Ashwin Achal
BENGALURU

The effects of heavy showers on the eve of the event will pose a challenge to runners in the TCS World 10K Bengaluru here on Sunday. A downpour on Saturday evening left some portions of the route littered with puddles, which could hinder runners from posting good timings.

The 27,000-odd runners will hope that the route is cleared by the time the event starts, and that rain stays away.

The international men's field will be led by defending champion Nicholas Kipkorir, Sebastian Sawe and Stephen Kissa. Vicoty Chepngeno, Tsehay Gemechu and Jesca Chelangat are among the favourites in the international women's field.

Kenyan Kipkorir holds the course record with a time of 27:38, while the women's course record of 30:35 is held by Irine Cheptai of Kenya.

The international athletes will vie for the $26,000 purse, while an additional $8,000 is on offer if the course record is broken.

Participants will start at the run at the Sree Kanteerava Stadium, and will pass city landmarks like Vidhan Soudha, the State Library, Cubbon Park and the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium.

Leading the charge for the Indian women athletes will be Preenu Yadav, Priti Lamba and Kavita Yadav. Murlikumar Tulsyabhai Gavit and Uttam Chand are among the leading Indian men's competitors. Olympians T. Gopi and Nitendra Singh Rawat are also among the starters.

All RCB needs to qualify is a win against GT

Du Plessis' men have the advantage of playing the final league match and will know exactly what is required to seal the deal

IPL-16

N. Sudarshan
BENGALURU

Royal Challengers Bangalore has a fairly straightforward path to the IPL playoffs. A win in the final game on Sunday, at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium, will more or less secure a place in the top-four.

In the groove: Royal Challengers will look to ride the momentum and upstage table-toppers Titans. NAGARA GOPAL

Big gap in NRR

Mumbai Indians can upset the apple cart, but it has to bridge an NRR gap of 0.308 with RCB. Even here, RCB has an advantage in that MI would have finished its match against Sunrisers Hyderabad earlier and Faf du Plessis and his men will know exactly what is required.

Two impediments, however, remain for RCB. Its final opponent is Gujarat Titans, the defending IPL champion and the standout team this year. There is also the weather.

Bengaluru saw widespread evening thunderstorms on Saturday and more is expected on matchday.

Regardless, confidence should be high in the RCB camp after two convincing wins against Rajasthan RR and SRH. Virat Kohli, with a 63-ball 100 versus SRH, proved that the rare multi-format batter in him was still alive.

Kiwi spin-bowling all-rounder Michael Bracewell has acquitted himself well in the absence of Wanindu Hasaranga, and with Josh Hazlewood on a flight back home following a recurrence of his Achilles injury, Bracewell will hope for a sustained run.

GT's PowerPlay batting, led by the irrepressible Shubman Gill, is explosive and bowling lethal.

It will be to Hardik Pandya's credit if there is no let up in approach despite having sewed up the top spot.

TODAY'S MATCHES

MUMBAI INDIANS vs. SUNRISERS
Mumbai,, 3.30 p.m.
HEAD-TO-HEAD
Played: **20**
MI **11** | SRH **9**
PREVIOUS MEETING
MI won by 14 runs, 2023

ROYAL CHALLENGERS vs. GUJARAT TITANS
Bengaluru, 7.30 p.m.
HEAD-TO-HEAD
Played: **2**
RCB **1** | GT **1**
PREVIOUS MEETING
RCB won by eight wickets, 2022

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Suryakumar the key as Mumbai Indians takes on Sunrisers Hyderabad

Amol Karhadkar
MUMBAI

Balance, they say, is the most critical aspect for a sportsperson, on and off the field. Having faced a lull after a staggering run, Suryakumar Yadav didn't take too long to bounce back with the willow.

Guiding force: Suryakumar's scorching form has helped Mumbai Indians to stay in the hunt till the last game. EMMANUAL YOGINI

Importance of balance

The Mumbai Indians star has stressed on the importance of being balanced. "If you create that balance, stay same with your friends and family when you are scoring runs as you are when you are not scoring runs, then it actually reflects in the game," Suryakumar said on Saturday, ahead of Mumbai Indians' must-win game versus Sunrisers Hyderabad.

"I felt it during the last month. At the start of the IPL, I started thinking: 'where are my runs!' But then I started doing the same things which helped me do well last year and everything came back to place."

Having started the Indian Premier League's 2023 edition with a duck to scoring his maiden IPL hundred in Mumbai Indians' penultimate league game, Suryakumar has matched or bettered his run tally in every innings.

With Mumbai Indians having registered three consecutive wins in its last three home games, primarily riding on Suryakumar's three whirlwind knocks, he will be expected to deliver yet again on Sunday.

Mumbai Indians has to win and hope that the RCB loses to GT so that it can make it to the playoffs for the first time since 2020.

Sathiyan and Manika duo battles to enter the second round

TABLE TENNIS

Sports Bureau

The Indian mixed doubles pair of G. Sathiyan and Manika Batra, seeded fourth, entered the second round of the World table tennis championships in Durban on Saturday, with a hard-fought 9-11, 11-8, 14-16, 11-7, 11-6 victory over the Luxembourg duo of Luka Mladenovic and Xia Lian Ni.

The women's doubles pair of Manika Batra and Archana Kamath, too, reached the second round, defeating Emily Quan & Yishiua Lin of USA 10-12, 11-2, 11-9, 11-5.

The results (first round):

Men: Cho Seungmin (Kor) bt Manush Shah 11-8, 7-11, 13-11, 11-5, 11-5.

Women: Tatiana Kukulkova (Svk) bt Sutirtha Mukherjee 3-11, 4-11, 12-10, 12-10, 11-6, 5-11, 11-8; Sreeja Akula bt Nicole Arlia (Ita) 11-6, 11-9, 9-11, 11-4, 11-5.

Doubles: Manika Batra & Archana Kamath bt Emily Quan & Yishiua Lin (USA) 10-12, 11-2, 11-9, 11-5.

Mixed doubles: G. Sathiyan & Manika Batra bt Luka Mladenovic & Xia Lian Ni (Lux) 9-11, 11-8, 14-16, 11-7, 11-6.

Golds for Jawkar, Jyothi-Deotale pair

ARCHERY WC

Sports Bureau

Nineteen-year-old Prathamesh Jawkar shocked World No. 1 Mike Schloesser to claim his maiden gold medal on a day that witnessed Indian compound archers' fine showing at the Archery World Cup Stage-2 in Shanghai.

Apart from Jawkar, V. Jyothi Surekha and Ojas Deotale secured their second consecutive mixed team gold and Avneet Kaur picked up the women's individual bronze to mark a fruitful Saturday for India.

Holding his nerve

Jawkar beat Estonia's Robin Jaatma 147-145 in the semifinals before upsetting Dutchman Schloesser – an indoor and outdoor World champion who has claimed altogether 12 individual gold medals in different stages and finals of the World Cup – 149-148 in a keenly-contested final.

The two were tied 29-29, 59-59, 89-89 and 119-119 in the first four ends. Jawkar held his nerve to shoot his fourth consecutive 30, while Schloesser slipped a bit in the final end.

India's previous individual compound men's gold was won by Abhishek Verma at a 2021 World Cup stage in Paris.

Another upset

The sixth-placed Indian pair of the experienced Jyothi Surekha and young Ojas upset the top-ranked Korean duo of Oh Yoohyun and Kim Jongho 156-155 in the mixed team summit clash to win the gold medal.

Bulls eye

The teams were tied in the first three ends before the Indians prevailed 39-38 in the final end with Jyothi shooting a 10 in the last shot of the match.

Eighteen-year-old Avneet lost to World No. 1 Ella Gibson 144-146 in the semifinals, but raised her game to beat Turkey's Ipek Tomruk 147-144 for the bronze.

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Pushkar-Punya pair crowned the champion

Sai Pushkar and M.N. Punya claimed doubles in the Yonex Sunrise Karnataka State under-11 and under-13 ranking badminton tournament here.

The results: **(finals)**: **Boys**: **Under-11**: **Singles**: Sanshray Sunil bt Sai Lingesh 21-15, 21-11; **Doubles**: G. Neerav/R. Vivaan bt Yajath Gowda/Nakulan Hari 21-12, 15-21, 21-15.

U-13: **Singles**: Sai Pushkar bt Gautham Nair 21-7, 21-13; **Doubles**: Eswar Sai/Sai Pushkar bt Aayush Mishra/Aarav Swaminathan 21-13, 21-19.

Girls: **U-11**: **Singles**: M.N. Punya bt Sumayyah Shariff 21-15, 21-18; **Doubles**: M.N. Punya/Shambhavi Sharma bt B. Janyashree/Aadhya Shetty 23-21, 21-11.

U-13: **Singles**: Shaina Mani bt Keerthi Balaji 21-13, 21-9.

Doubles: Shreya Kandibilla/Shree Nagalakshmi bt Hamsa Muralidhara/Hansika Rakesh 21-10, 21-11.

Government of Karnataka
RDW&S, DIVISION, MYSORE
Short Term Tender Notification No: 01 /2023-24
Dated:18.05.2023

Short term tender notification is as below.

On behalf of the Governor of Karnataka Items rate tenders (Two cover system) has been called for the following Tender works Under Rate Tender, as per Tender Documents and as per Karnataka transparency Act G.O.No.FD9 PCL 2004 Dt. 06.08.2005 and as per recent amendments, Date of uploading Tender forms under e-procurement Dt: 22.05.2023 11:00 AM onwards, Last Date for submitting the filled Tender forms is 05.06.2023 upto 4.00 PM, Opening of Technical bid 06.06.2023 at 5.30 PM onwards, Opening of Financial bid after approval of Technical bid. Government registered Class 2 & above Civil contractor as per KW-4 tender documents are eligible to participate in the tender process for 02 works in H D Kote taluk (Amount put to tender starts from Rs.429.10 lakhs to Rs. 470.90 lakhs) & pre bid meeting is on 26.05.2023 at 11.00am for e-procurement support contact e-procurement Portal No.1/1 Sun Beam Building Eagle Street Long ford road, Long ford town Bangalore -560025 Tel. Phone No 080 – 22485867, 080-22485927. For more details log on to www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in or contact the Officer under signed at office hours. Phone No.0821-2460 495.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, RDW&S, Division, Mysore
DIPR/DDMYS/KSMCA/12/2023-24

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike
Office of the Executive Engineer, Hebbal Division, 2nd Floor, BBMP Building, JC Nagar Main Road, Munireddy Palya Bengaluru-560032

No: EE/HBL/TEND/01/2022-23 **Date: 19-05-2023**

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

(Through e-Procurement Portal
GOK website: https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in only)

Tenders on item rate basis are invited by the undersigned on behalf of the Chief Commissioner / Zonal Commissioner, BBMP for the works mentioned below from the registered contractors of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike or equivalent registration with CPWD / KPWD / Railways / MES or any State Government Organizations.

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Est. Cost in Lakhs	EMD in Rs.
1	Establishment of Temporary Night Control Room for Mansoon Period (From 01-06-2022 to 30-09-2023) in Hebbal Sub Division in ward No. 66, 67, 70 & 72.	5.00	12500.00
2	Establishment of Temporary Night Control Room for Mansoon Period (From 01-06- 2022 to 30-09-2023) in J.C.Nagar Sub Division in ward No. 68, 69, 71 & 73.	5.00	12500.00

Calendar of events: (1) Tender Documents can be uploaded in E-Portal from 20-05-2023. (2) Last Date for uploading the Filled proposals is 29-05-2023 up to 16:00 hours. (3) Date of Opening of Financial Proposals is 30-05-2023 after 11:00 hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Hebbal Division

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
(A Government of India Undertaking)
TRINITY CIRCLE BRANCH
No. 1, S.V. Road, BSNL Complex, Halasuru, Bengaluru-560008.

APPENDIX IV under Act- Rule 8 (1)
POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property)

The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of **Canara Bank, Trinity Circle Branch, Bengaluru** Under Securitization And Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued a Demand Notice dated **27.01.2023** calling upon the **Borrowers/ Co-Borrowers/ Mortgagors/ Guarantors: (1) M/s Eminence Homes and Spaces,** Eminence Chambers, No. 5910 B, Ground Floor, Gen. Thimmaiah Road, Vijayanagar 2nd Stage, Devaraja Mohalla, Mysore-570017**, Represented by its Partners and also at** No. 21/2, Rest House Road, Shanthala Nagar, Bengaluru-560001. **(2) Mr. Sukanand.P.C.,** No. 83, Pavan Plaza, 11th Floor, Shivaji Circle, Shivajinagar, Bengaluru-560051. **(3) Mr. Venkatesh, K.R.** No. 29, Sri Datta Nilaya, 36 'A' Cross, 20th Main, 4th 'T' Block, Jayanagar, Bengaluru-560041. **(4) Dr. K.C. Raju Reddy,** Shree Veerabhadra Nilaya, CMR Lane, 4th Cross, Lingarajapura, Bengaluru-560084, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **Rs. 3,15,78,241/- (Rupees Three Crores Fifteen Lakhs Seventy Eight Thousand Two Hundred & Forty One only)** as on **27.01.2023** within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice, together with further interest and incidental expenses and costs.

The Borrowers/Guarantors/Mortgagors having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and the public in general, that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/ her under section 13 (4) of the said Act, read with Rules 8 & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this **16th May 2023.**

The borrowers attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

The Borrowers/Guarantors/Mortgagors in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the **Canara Bank** for an amount **Rs. 3,15,78,241/- (Rupees Three Crores Fifteen Lakhs Seventy Eight Thousand Two Hundred & Forty One only)** as on **27.01.2023** together with further interest and incidental expenses and costs.

Description of the Immovable Property

Item No. 1 : All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing Residentialy converted land bearing Sy.No. 32/18, Municipal No. 480, Ward No. 54, situated at Byrathi Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru East Taluk, Bengaluru District. Measuring 10,527 Square Feet.

Floor	Apartment	SBA in Sq.Ft.	Car Parking	UDS	UDS%
1	104	1097	1	599	6
2	203	1027	1	561	5
2	204	1097	1	599	6
2	205	1041	1	568	5
2	206	1118	1	611	6
3	303	1027	1	561	5
3	304	1097	1	599	6
3	305	1041	1	568	5
3	306	1118	1	611	6

And Composite Property is bounded on: East by: Remaining land in Sy.No. 32/1B, West by: Road and Land in Sy.No. 31, North by: Land in Sy.No. 32/1A, South by: Land in Sy.No. 32/2B.

Item No. 2 : All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing Residential Flat No. 603, 6th Floor, Block-1, having super built up area measuring 1,135 Square feet in the Residential Apartment building known as "Eminence Gardenia" constructed on converted land bearing Sy.No. 60/4, measuring 30 Guntas situated at Bogadi Village, Kasaba Hobli, Mysore Taluk, Mysore and Composite property is bounded on: East by: Road, West by: Remaining portion of Sy.No. 60/2, North by: Nala and Sy.No. 60/5, South by: Sy.No. 60/1.

Item No. 3 : All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing Residential Flat No. 506, 5th Floor, Block-1, having super built up area measuring 1,455 Square feet in the Residential Apartment building known as "Eminence Gardenia" constructed on converted land bearing Sy.No. 60/4, measuring 30 Guntas situated at Bogadi Village, Kasaba Hobli, Mysore Taluk, Mysore and Composite property is bounded on: East by: Road, West by: Remaining portion of Sy.No. 60/2, North by: Nala and Sy.No. 60/5, South by: Sy.No. 60/1.

Item No. 4 : All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing Residential Flat No. 605, 6th Floor, Block-1, having super built up area measuring 1,513 Square feet in the Residential Apartment building known as "Eminence Gardenia" constructed on converted land bearing Sy.No. 60/4, measuring 30 Guntas situated at Bogadi Village, Kasaba Hobli, Mysore Taluk, Mysore and Composite property is bounded on: East by: Road, West by: Remaining portion of Sy.No. 60/2, North by: Nala and Sy.No. 60/5, South by: Sy.No. 60/1.

Place :Bengaluru **Sd/-Authorized Officer**
Date : 16.05.2023 **Canara Bank**

Arsenal gifts Manchester City Premier League title

Forest ensures its survival with a win over the Gunners, Liverpool fights back against Aston Villa, Man United edge past Bournemouth; Leipzig stuns Bayern to hand Dortmund an advantage

EURO LEAGUES

Agence France-Presse
NOTTINGHAM

Manchester City won the Premier League for the fifth time in six seasons after second-placed Arsenal lost 1-0 at Nottingham Forest on Saturday.

A second consecutive defeat for the Gunners left Mikel Arteta's men still four points adrift of City with one game left for them to play.

Taiwo Awoniyi's winning goal also had huge ramifications at the bottom of the table as Forest is now safe from relegation in its first season back in the top flight for 23 years.

Heartbreaker: Awoniyi scuttles Arsenal's hopes with this strike. AFP

Manchester United and Newcastle are on the brink of qualifying for next season's Champions League after Liverpool's 1-1 draw against Aston Villa and United's 1-0 victory at Bournemouth.

Borussia Dortmund is two wins away from its first title in a decade, after RB Leipzig came from behind to win 3-1 away at Bayern Munich on Saturday in the Bundesliga.

The results: Premier League: Tottenham 1 (Kane 8) lost to Brentford 3 (Mbeumo 50, 62, Wissa 88); Bournemouth 0 lost to Manchester United 1 (Casemiro 9); Fulham 2 (Mitrovic 45+5-pen, 61) drew with Crystal Palace 2 (Edouard 34, Ward 83).

Liverpool 1 (Firmino 89) drew with Aston Villa 1 (Ramsey 27); Wolves 1 (Hwang 34) drew with Everton 1 (Mina 90+9); Nottingham Forest 1 (Awoniyi 19) bt Arsenal 0.

Bundesliga: Bayern München 1 (Gnabry 25) lost to RB Leipzig 3 (Laimer 64, Nkunku 76-pen, Szoboszlai 86-pen).

Hoffenheim 4 (Bebou 22, Kramaric 36-pen, Kramaric 89, Dabbur 90+9) bt Union Berlin 2 (Doekhi 45+4, Laidouni 90+5).

Hertha Berlin 1 (Tousart 63) drew with Bochum 1 (Schlotterbeck 90+4).

Sharmada-Elaine duo triumphs

TENNIS

Sports Bureau

Sharmada Balu and Elaine Genovese of Malta beat Louise Kwong and Anna Ulyashchenko 0-6, 6-4, [11-9] in the final of the $15,000 ITF women's tennis in Monastir, Tunisia, on Saturday.

It was the first doubles title in two years for the 29-year-old Sharmada, and the 17th of her career.

The results: $15,000 ITF men, Addis Ababa: Doubles: Semifinals: Akram El Sallaly (Egy) & Kris Van Wyk (RSA) bt Yash Chaurasia & Jagmeet Singh 6-4, 6-4; S.D. Prajwal Dev & Nitin Kumar Sinha bt Ishaque Eqbal & Karan Singh 6-3, 6-1.

Quarterfinals: Prajwal & Nitin bt Rishab Agarwal & Ryotaro Matsumura (Jpn) 6-2, 6-1.

$15,000 ITF women, Curitiba, Brazil: Quarterfinals: Ana Candiotto (Bra) bt Smriti Bhasin 7-5, 4-6, 6-2.

Elpenor may score encore in War Hammer Million

BENGALURU: Elpenor, who is in fine fettle, may score an encore in the War Hammer Million (1,400m), the chief event of the races to be held here on Sunday (May 21). False rails (width about 4m from 1,600m to the winning post) will be in position.

1 NEWMARKET PLATE (1,200m), rated 00 to 25, 5-y-o & over, 2.30 p.m.: 1. Dallas Drifter (4) Sonu K 62.5, 2. Altair (7) P. Siddaraju 62, 3. Rorita (11) A. Imran 61.5, 4. Jersey Legend (5) Vinod Shinde 60, 5. By The Book (8) Zervan 59.5, 6. Elite Agent (6) Rajesh K 58.5, 7. Konichiwa (2) Shivansh 58.5, 8. Altamonte (9) Vivek 58, 9. Infinite Spirit (-) (-) 58, 10. Dawn Rising (1) Rayan 56, 11. Russian Romance (3) B. Nayak 55.5 and 12. Perfect Halo (10) Kiran Rai 55.

1. BY THE BOOK, 2. ALTAIR, 3. DALLAS DRIFTER

2 MANITOU PLATE (Div. II), (1,200m), rated 20 to 45, 4-y-o & over, 3.00: 1. Pavarotti (8) J.H. Arul 60, 2. Empire Of Dreams (3) Shreyas S 59, 3. Aferpi (4) Rajesh K 58.5, 4. Recreator (6) Vinod Shinde 58.5, 5. The Perfect Choice (2) Khurshad 58.5, 6. Burst Of Blaze (1) B. Nayak 58, 7. Maroon (7) B. Harish 58, 8. Maybach (5) A. Imran 58, 9. Master Of Courage (10) Chethan K 57.5 and 10. Emeraldo (9) A. Ramu 55.

1. PAVAROTTI, 2. MAYBACH, 3. EMPIRE OF DREAMS

3 TRACK LIGHTNING PLATE (1,400m), maiden 3-y-o only, (Terms), 3.30: 1. Indian Sniper (5) Abhay S 56, 2. Pneuma (2) Hindu S 56, 3. Royal Mysore (1) G. Vivek 56, 4. Shadow Of The Moon (3) Yash 56, 5. Superhero (8) Ikram Ahmed 56, 6. Tiger Shark (11) Zervan 56, 7. Golden Peaks (7) Akshay K 54.5, 8. N R I Fairy (6) Afroz Khan 54.5, 9. Neziah (4) P.S. Chouhan 54.5, 10. Sassy (10) Trevor 54.5 and 11. Sparkle N Shine (9) Kiran Naidu 54.5.

1. ROYAL MYSORE, 2. SASSY, 3. NEZIAH

4 MAYOR'S CUP (1,400m), rated 60 to 85, 4.00: 1. Kancha (2) P.S. Chouhan 60, 2. Last Wish (3) Trevor 58, 3. Miss Little Angel (5) Sonu K 55.5, 4. Ashwa Magadheera (4) Yash 55, 5. Disruptor (6) Akshay K 53.5, 6. Price Abir (1) Shreyas S 52 and 7. Fortunate Son (7) N.S. Parmar 51.

1. LAST WISH, 2. KANCHA, 3. DISRUPTOR

5 WAR HAMMER MILLION (1,400m), 3-y-o, (Terms), 4.30: 1. Elpenor (8) Akshay K 57, 2. Waikiki (10) N.S. Parmar 55, 3. Auspicious Queen (12) Trevor 54.5, 4. N R I Doublepower (4) P.S. Chouhan 54.5, 5. Born To Be Spoilt (1) Afroz Khan 52, 6. Brilliant Star (13) Abhay S 52, 7. Detective (9) Likith Appu 52, 8. Diamond Gold (6) J.H. Arul 52, 9. Felix (7) Hasib 52, 10. Gimmler (14) K. Nazil 52, 11. Made In Heaven (11) Santosh Raj 52, 12. Aralina (2) S. Saqlain 50.5, 13. Fast Pace (3) Ajeet K 50.5 and 14. Golden Bella (5) Shreyas S 50.5.

1. ELPENOR, 2. AUSPICIOUS QUEEN, 3. WAIKIKI

6 SWEET MEMORIES PLATE (1,200m), rated 20 to 45, 5-y-o & over, 5.00: 1. Chisox (10) Arvind K 62.5, 2. Striking Memory (9) Abhay S 62.5, 3. Millbrook (6) K. Nazil 61.5, 4. Osiris (3) Khurshad 59, 5. Twilight Fame (8) Rajesh K 58.5, 6. Remontior (12) A. Ramu 58, 7. Slice Of Heaven (4) B. Nayak 58, 8. Air Display (5) Vivek 57.5, 9. Mr Humble (2) Vishal Bunde 56.5, 10. Belvedere (1) Akshay K 56, 11. Sacred Creator (11) Kiran Rai 55 and 12. Capri Girl (7) Vinod Shinde 53.

1. BELVEDERE, 2. MR HUMBLE, 3. CAPRI GIRL

7 MANITOU PLATE (Div I), (1,200m), rated 20 to 45, 4-y-o & over, 5.30: 1. Schafenberg (7) Rayan 61.5, 2. Agera (2) P.S. Chouhan 60.5, 3. Alcides Synergy (5) A. Imran 60, 4. Appsara (3) Kiran Naidu 58, 5. Step To Destiny (6) Vinod Shinde 58, 6. White Roses (8) Shreyas S 57, 7. Opus One (9) S. Saqlain 56, 8. The Athabasca (4) P. Siddaraju 56 and 9. Masteroftheskies (1) Hasib 54.

1. WHITE ROSES, 2. ALCIDES SYNERGY, 3. AGERA

Day's best: **ELPENOR**

Double: **ROYAL MYSORE - WHITE ROSES**

Jkt: 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7; Tr (i): 2, 3 and 4; (ii): 5, 6 and 7.

Fast Rain wins feature

BENGALURU: M.K. Jadhav-trained Fast Rain (N.S. Parmar up) won the Racing Patrons Trophy, the feature event of the opening day of Bangalore races held here on Saturday (May 20). The winner is owned by Mr. Prashant Nagar rep. SKJ Racing & Breeding Pvt Ltd. Trainer Prasanna Kumar won three races on the day.

THE RESULTS

1. MAY DAY PLATE: TRUE FAITH (A. Imran) 1, August (Trevor) 2, Roman Spirit (N.S. Parmar) 3 and Cat Whiskers (Akshay K) 4. 2, 3-1/4 and 2-1/4. 1m 25.34s. Rs. 31 (w), 12, 13 and 27 (p), SHP: 31, THP: 43, FP: 63, Q: 26, Trinella: 471, Exacta: 624. Favourite: August.

Owners: Mrs. Anneka Darashah, Mr. Hemant Dharnidharka, Mr. Cowas Dorab Bajan, Mr. Roopesh S and Mr. Hothur Sajjad Wahab. Trainer: Neil Darashah.

2. QUASAR PLATE: MIGHTY ZO (R. Girish) 1, Aherne (Yash) 2, Antilope (N.S. Parmar) 3 and Southern Force (Trevor) 4. Not run: Venus. 1/2, 1-1/4 and 2-1/4. 1m 25.89s. Rs. 266 (w), 41, 16 and 21 (p), SHP: 31, THP: 40, FP: 1,940, Q: 482, Trinella: 42,559, Exacta: 37,939. Favourite: Southern Force.

Owners: Mr. K. Manoj Kumar and Mrs. Gaja Manoj. Trainer: Prasanna Kumar.

3. AKHAL-TEKE PLATE: SIEGE COURAGEOUS (Trevor) 1, Fighton (N.S. Parmar) 2, Cash Out (Arvind K) 3 and Michigan Melody (Sonu K) 4. Not run: Tough Cookie. 2-3/4, 2 and 1-1/4. 1m 11.63s. Rs. 19 (w), 13, 11 and 47 (p), SHP: 28, THP: 185, FP: 31, Q: 18, Trinella: 662, Exacta: 12,350. Favourite: Siege Courageous.

Owners: Mr. Dean Stephens and Mukteshwar Racing LLP. Trainer: Prasanna Kumar.

4. WELCOME TROPHY (DIV. I): VERROCCHIO (Trevor) 1, Tehani (Akshay K) 2, Precious (Abhay S) 3 and Fearless Joey (Kiran Naidu) 4. 5-1/4, 5-1/4 and 1/2. 1m 12.67s. Rs. 14 (w), 10, 13 and 16 (p), SHP: 25, THP: 45, FP: 29, Q: 22, Trinella: 125, Exacta: 289. Favourite: Verrocchio.

Owners: Mr. Rama Seshu Eyunni, Five Stars Shipping Co Pvt Ltd rep. by Mr. K.N. Dhunjibhoy & Mr. Z.K. Dhunjibhoy. Trainer: Laxman Singh.

5. RACING PATRONS TROPHY: FAST RAIN (N.S. Parmar) 1, Promise Kept (S. Saqlain) 2, Moon's Blessing (Trevor) 3 and Star Glory (Yash) 4. 1-1/2, 2 and Nk. 1m 11.30s. Rs. 63 (w), 18, 19 and 13 (p), SHP: 48, THP: 41, FP: 372, Q: 303, Trinella: 2,410, Exacta: 5,872. Favourite: Moon's Blessing.

Owner: Mr. Prashant Nagar rep. SKJ Racing & Breeding Pvt Ltd. Trainer: M.K. Jadhav.

6. WELCOME TROPHY (DIV. II): VIVALDO (Akshay K) 1, Good Tip (Kiran Naidu) 2, Clifford (Zervan) 3 and Serai (Vishal Bunde) 4. 4-1/4, 2-3/4 and 1. 1m 14.17s. Rs. 16 (w), 10, 19 and 14 (p), SHP: 54, THP: 40, FP: 96, Q: 70, Trinella: 328, Exacta: 839. Favourite: Vivaldo.

Owners: Mrs. Gaja Manoj and Mr. K. Manoj Kumar. Trainer: Prasanna Kumar.

Note: Due to heavy rains rendering the track not conducive for racing, the Stewards of the Bangalore Turf Club decided to cancel the last race of the day.

Jackpot: Rs. 364 (177 tkts paid on fourth leg); Treble (i): 1,242 (six tkts); (ii): 186 (132 tkts paid on second leg).

Three share lead; Lahiri misses the cut

PGA C'SHIP

Agence France-Presse
ROCHESTER

Scottie Scheffler, Viktor Hovland and Corey Conners delivered clutch birdies and ground out par saves to share the lead after Friday's second round of the PGA Championship here.

Scheffler, last year's Masters champion, and Conners each fired two-under 68 to finish 36 holes level at the top on five-under 135. Hovland sank a five-foot birdie putt on the 18th hole to shoot 67 and make it three at the top.

Bryson DeChambeau, the 2020 US Open champion, closed with a bogey to share fourth with fellow American Justin Suh on 137.

Defending champion Justin Thomas also made the cut on the number.

Anirban Lahiri of India missed the cut shooting three-over 73 after a four-over 74 in the first round.

Lahiri, whose last Major was the PGA Championships in 2022, had five bogeys against one birdie in the first round and four bogeys against one birdie in the second and at seven-over 147 was two shots off the cutline.

The scores: 135: Scottie Scheffler (USA — 67, 68), Corey Conners (Can — 67, 68), Viktor Hovland (Nor — 68, 67); **137:** Justin Suh (USA — 69, 68), Bryson DeChambeau (USA — 66, 71); **138:** Brooks Koepka (USA — 72, 66), Callum Tarren (Eng — 71, 67); **139:** Justin Rose (Eng — 69,70), Taylor Pendrith (Can — 70, 69).

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*T&C apply